



# **In Love with God!**

by

**Sensei Mark McGee**



I am in love with God! It is the cry of my heart, the song of my soul, the joy of my life. I am a Christian and I am in love with God. Love between the Creator and His creature is the meaning of being a Christian. The most common element in our relationship with God is love: His Love for us and our responding love for Him. God loves you!

That is always true. It never changes. God loves you in the morning, in the afternoon, at night, during the week and on the weekends. He loves you when you think of Him and when you don't think of Him. God loves you when you return His Love and when you don't. God loves you when you obey Him and when you disobey Him. God loves you when you're awake and when you're asleep. God loves you when you work and when you play, when you eat and when you fast. God loves you when you do His will and when you don't. God loves you when you succeed and when you fail. God loves you when you have a good idea and when you have a bad idea. God loves you when you make a wise choice and when you don't. God's Love for you is constant and dependable. God's Love for you is based on His Character, not yours. God loves you all the time. He loved you before time and loves you all the time. He loved you before you believed in Him and He loves you while you believe Him. God is Love and He Loves each one of us completely and totally.

We have never known anyone in our lives who loves us the way God loves us. No human has ever loved anyone the way God loves us. God loved His people in the Garden, through the desert and on the Cross. He loves us now and will love us forever. We are God's people living in the harbor of His Love. If someone asks us what it means to be a Christian, our answer can be that a Christian is a person in love with God.

*And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. Deuteronomy 6:5*

God told the people of Israel that their love for Him should be their entire being. Jesus repeated that clear and concise statement to His disciples: "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." (Matthew 22:37) We are to love the Lord our God with all our heart, all our soul and all our might.

What does it mean to love God with "all" our heart, soul and might? It means that our minds, emotions and will are combined together in a deep and abiding love for the One Who created us, died for us and forgave us. Our thoughts are consumed with our love for God. Our emotions burn with our love for God. Our choices and actions are guided by our deep love for God. We obey Him because we

love Him. We worship God because we love Him. We talk to Him and listen to Him because we love Him.

We think about Him continually and desire to be with Him constantly because we love Him. We read His Word regularly and consider it abidingly because we love Him. There is no fiber of our being that is not love with God because we love Him “with all our heart, with all our soul and with all our might.” He is our first thought upon waking in the morning. He is our continual thought through the journey of each day. He is our final thought as we lay our head upon the pillow at night. He is our Everything!

*And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul.*  
*Deuteronomy 10:12*

Love means service. To say we love someone, then do nothing they ask us to do is not love. To say we love someone and hear their desire for a loving relationship with us, then do nothing to show our love through our actions is not love. To say we love someone, then do nothing to spend our time and energy on that person is not love. To say we love someone, then turn away from them when they ask for our help is not love.

God was direct with Israel. He told them He loved them and wanted them to love Him. He required of them four responses to His Love:

1. Respect
2. Obedience
3. Love
4. Service

The fear God wants from us is not to be “afraid” of Him or be terrified by Him, but to revere Him – deeply respect Him, hold Him in awe. This “fear ” of God leads to obedience, which unlocks our deepest love, that opens the door to serve Him freely and willingly. We can only experience the depths of God’s Love in our heart as we respect Him and offer Him an obedient life. In turn, God’s Spirit within us Loves the Father and the Son through us leading to a life of rich and abundant service. God is a Loving Heavenly Father. He is a better father than any earthly father who has ever lived or will live. God wants what’s best for us and He has the ability to make that happen. He will provide everything we need physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually to enjoy Him and serve Him. We have but to ask God to help us in our service and His Love meets our every need.

*In that I command thee this day to love the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the LORD thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it.*  
*Deuteronomy 30:16*

God wants to bless us! Think about that. God wants to bless us! He wants us to live and multiply. He wants to bless us wherever we go and whatever we do. The promise made in Deuteronomy is specifically to Israel in its journey from the captivity of Egypt to the joy of the Promised Land, but we learn in the New Testament that God also wants the same for us today. We have all spiritual blessings in Heavenly places and God is ready to bless us each moment of every day as we fear Him, obey Him, love Him and serve Him.

*And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but he: And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices. And when Jesus saw*

*that he answered discreetly, he said unto him, Thou art not far from the kingdom of God. And no man after that durst ask him any question.*  
*Mark 12: 30 – 34*

Jesus explained the entire Old Testament in two principles: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength and Love your neighbor as yourself. As the scribe responded wisely to Christ, doing that is more [*perissoteros* – more important than] than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices. Love is the deepest relationship. It's not about what we do, how much we pray, how often or long we fast, how much we give to the poor, how much time we spend at church... it's about loving God with every cell of our being and loving our neighbor as ourself. That's the most important thing. When we love God that way our service and sacrifice mean something very special to God. God sees us on the inside. He knows what motivates us. He knows why we do what we do, say what we say, go where we go, see who we see, hear what we hear, learn what we learn, know what we know, want what we want. He knows if our heart and soul and mind and strength is being spent on Him or on ourselves. He knows.

God only wants one thing from us: everything.



*And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28*

When we give God our everything, when we love Him with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, we receive a special gift from God. It is the gift of all things working together for good. His purpose is that we love Him and enjoy a loving relationship with Him that will continue through eternity. God wants what is best for us. He really cares for us.

*But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. 1 Corinthians 2:9*

We cannot imagine, even in our wildest dreams, what God has prepared for us. Look around at the beauty of our planet. Even with its flaws the Earth is a most beautiful and wonderful place to live. However, the Earth pales in comparison to what God has prepared for us in Heaven. When we stand with each other on the other side and feast our spiritual senses on what God has prepared for us, we will be amazed. The beauty, majesty and perfection of Heaven will most certainly be more than we ever thought God would do for us.

*Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 1 John 4:10*

*We love him, because he first loved us. 1 John 4:19*

How fortunate we are to know God and love Him with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, but it is no credit to us. We did not love God first. He Loved us first and we love Him because He first us. God's Love is beyond our understanding but it is within our reach. If you know Christ personally, you know God's Love. You prayed for it, received it, felt it, kept it, shared it, wanted more of it. It is yours forever.

If you do not know Christ personally, this is your invitation to open your heart, soul and mind to Him right now. God Loves you and offers you His greatest Gift, the Passion of Christ His Son. Jesus died for your sins. He paid the penalty you owed. His death is payment in full. You owe nothing but will receive everything simply by asking God to forgive you of your sins and placing your faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

Believe in Jesus Christ and you will be saved. You will have it all: God's Love, God's Peace, God's Promise. If you do not have a personal relationship with God through Christ, you are only seconds away from the greatest moment of your life. Receive Him, believe Him, open your heart to His Love; then enjoy Him and love Him with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, all your strength. God is waiting to hear from you.

*Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. Jude 1:21*

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