

*“As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ; Who also **Declared Unto Us Your Love In The Spirit.**” Colossians 1:7-8 KJV*



Dear Believer, do you live in such a way that it compels others to share your love of God to others? Do they say of you, “They really love the Lord!” or “They really love those believers!”? Epaphras not only shared their love for Paul with Paul, but their love for God, “*in the Spirit,*” which I’m sure also delighted Paul. These are two ways you can think of the “*your love*” mentioned in today’s passage; love for God and love for believers: The two are harmonious with one another. “*We love Him, because He first Loved us. If a man say, ‘I love God,’ and hateth his brother (fellow believers), he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this Commandment have we from Him, that he who loveth God love his brother also.*”

You can’t truly know and love God without loving those He has redeemed. The two have a reciprocal relationship, for we must truly learn of God’s Love to us to know how to love other believers. After all, it is a Command; “*A new Commandment I give unto you, that ye Love one another as I have Loved you. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples.*” We must see ourselves in the Light and by the Light of God’s Word to know how truly short we are and undeserving of His Love, if we are to love our fellow believers; with that same forgiving Spirit, “*as Christ also hath Loved us, and hath given Himself for us; a Ransom for many.*” I know it goes against our natural instinct to forgive those who have hurt us, but that’s just it; we are “*new creatures*” in Christ. What did Christ do for you as your sins took His Life on Golgotha’s bloody knoll? He interceded with God (Himself, if you will) on your behalf; “*Forgive them! They know not what they do!*” Do you intercede with yourself for forgiveness to others, or do you wrestle? When you begin to understand the Purity, Power, and Perfection, the Holiness, of Who God is, only then will you understand the terror and torture of Calvary! Only then will you begin to comprehend the “*Love that drew Salvation’s Plan...that brought it down to man.*” Only then will you be able to “*Love one another as [Christ has] Loved you.*” Are you declaring Christ’s Love for you to others?

And can it be that I should gain
An int’rest in the Savior’s blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain—
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be,
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me? –Charles Wesley

I used to visit a friend at a Christian radio station and over the doorway to the control room hung this sign, “If your heart is full of joy, please, notify your face!” Is our life a reflection of the Glory of God’s Love and Grace through faith in your heart? Or are we hiding our Light under a bushel? “*We love Him, because He first Loved us.*” To know God is to know Love beyond earthly understanding!

“That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in Love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the Love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.” Ephesians 3:17-19 KJV