

WHAT IS LOVE?

Love - The Cruden's Concordance to the Holy Scriptures 1806, says: "Love- Signifies:

[#1] A natural passion, inclining us to delight in an object-

Gen. 27:4 *"And make me savory meat, such as I **love**, and bring it to me, that I may eat; that my soul may bless thee before I die."*

Gen. 29:20 *"And Jacob served seven years for Rachel; and they seemed unto him but a few days, for the **love** he had to her."*

CC 66.3,4.

*"In early times custom required the bridegroom, before the ratification of a marriage engagement, to pay a sum of money or its equivalent in other property, according to his circumstances, to the father of his wife. This was regarded as a safeguard to the marriage relation.... But provision was made to test those who had nothing to pay for a wife. They were permitted to labor for the father whose daughter they loved, the length of time being regulated by the value of the dowry required. When the suitor was faithful in his services, and proved in other respects worthy, he obtained the daughter as his wife; and generally the dowry which the father had received was given her at her marriage....The ancient custom, though sometimes abused, as by Laban, was productive of good results. When the suitor was required to render service to secure his bride, a hasty marriage was prevented, and there was opportunity to **test the depth of his affections,**" CC 66.4*

This "NATURAL PASSION" can be deep or shallow. For it is run by Feelings and Circumstances.

Exodus 21:4-6 *If his master have given him a wife, and she have born him sons or daughters; the wife and her children shall be her master's, and he shall go out by himself. And if the servant shall plainly say, I **love** my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free: Then his master shall bring him unto the judges; he shall also bring him to the door, or unto the door post; and his master shall bore his ear through with an aul; and he shall serve him **forever**.*

The earring was to show that because of his deep love for his master and family he promised to serve his master for life!

The Lord's Admonition to us:

Deut. 10:19 *“Love ye therefore the stranger: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.”*

What is LOVE? = The Cruden's Concordance:

[#2] **A gracious principle or habit, wrought in the soul by God, which inclines us to delight in, esteem, and earnestly desire to enjoy an interest in God's favor, and communion with him, as our chief good, portion, and happiness, and the fountain of all perfection and excellency; and which likewise disposes us to do good to all, especially to such as resemble God in holiness, and bear his image.**

1 John 4:19-21 *“We love him, because he first loved us. If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, 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.”*

GW92 429 *“We love him, because he first loved us.” [1 John 4:19] It is impossible for us to believe that Jesus endured the untold agonies of the cross for us, without having our hearts melted in love for him. And if we love him, we shall be solicitous to please him, to obey him. The heart stirred by the love of Christ will earnestly inquire, “Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?”*

[#3] The Effect of Love:

ON GOD!

John 3:16 *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”*

Rom 5:8 *“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”*

ON JESUS!

John 15:13 *“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.”*

Rev 1:5 *"And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood."*

ON MAN!

John 1:6 "And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it."

Deut. 11:22 *"For if ye shall diligently keep all these commandments which I command you, to do them, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, and to cleave unto him."*

COL 384.3 *"It is not possible for the heart in which Christ abides to be destitute of love. If we love God because He first loved us, we shall love all for whom Christ died. We cannot come in touch with divinity without coming in touch with humanity; for in Him who sits upon the throne of the universe, divinity and humanity are combined. Connected with Christ, we are connected with our fellow men by the golden links of the chain of love. Then the pity and compassion of Christ will be manifest in our life. We shall not wait to have the needy and unfortunate brought to us. We shall not need to be entreated to feel for the woes of others. It will be as natural for us to minister to the needy and suffering as it was for Christ to go about doing good."* **COL 384.3**

[#4] The Person beloved:

Cant. 2:2,7. *"As the lily among thorns, so is my love among the daughters."* (Solomon's Lady)

vs. 7 *"I charge you, O ye daughters ... that ye stir not up, nor awake my love, till he please."* (Solomon)

1 Cor. 16:19-22 *"The churches of Asia salute you. Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house. All the brethren greet you. Greet ye one another with an holy kiss. The salutation of me Paul with mine own hand. If any man **love** not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema (Excommunicated- Disfellowshipped) Maranatha. (Our Lord has come) My **love** be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen."* (Paul's love for the church at Corinth)

John 21:16,17 “He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, **lovest** thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I **love** thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, **lovest** thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, **Lovest** thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I **love** thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.” (Jesus’ question to Peter- after his betrayal)

[#5] True friendship or kindness:

Prov. 15:17 “Better is a dinner of herbs where **love** is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith.”

Eph. 4:32 “And be ye **kind** one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.”

1Sam. 20:15-17 “But also thou shalt not cut off thy **kindness** from my house for ever: no, not when the LORD hath cut off the enemies of David every one from the face of the earth. So Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, Let the LORD even require it at the hand of David's enemies. And Jonathan caused David to swear again, because he **loved** him: for he **loved** him as he **loved** his own soul.”

2Sam. 1:25,26 “How are the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle! O Jonathan, thou wast slain in thine high places. I am distressed for thee, my brother Jonathan: very pleasant hast thou been unto me: thy **love** to me was wonderful, passing the **love** of women.”

Rom 12:9, 10 “Let **love** be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be **kindly** affectioned one to another with brotherly **love**; in honour preferring one another;

IS THERE MORE THAN ONE KIND OF LOVE?

LOVE IS - [I] Natural, which is either, Lawful:

Psalm 34:12 “What man is he that desireth life, and **loveth** many days, that he may see good?”

1Thess. 4:9 “But as touching brotherly **love** ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to **love** one another.”

Or Unlawful:

John 12:25 *“He that **loveth** his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal.”*

2 Tim. 3:2 *“For men shall be **lovers** of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy.”*

LOVE IS- (II) Conjugal, which is-

[1] Divine, that is God’s Love to His people, which is-

Inexpressible:

Isa 63:9 *“In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them: in his **love** and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old.”*

John 3:16 *“For God so **loved** the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”*

Rom. 5:8 *“But God commendeth his **love** toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”*

Inconceivable:

Eph. 3:19. *“And to know the **love** of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.”*

Everlasting:

Jer. 31:3 *“The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have **loved** thee with an everlasting **love**: therefore with **lovingkindness** have I drawn thee.”*

Sovereign:

Deut. 7:8 *“But because the LORD **loved** you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.”*

Ezek. 16:8 *“Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time was the time of love; and I spread my skirt over thee, and covered thy nakedness: yea, I swore unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord GOD, and thou becamest mine.”*

Free-Undeserved:

Hosea. 14:4 *“I will heal their backsliding, I will **love** them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him.”*

Isa 1:18 *“Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.”*

Immutable:

John 13:1 *“Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having **loved** his own which were in the world, he **loved** them unto the end.”*

Complacential:

Prov. 8:31 *“Rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth; and my delights were with the sons of men.”*

1 John 4:16 *“And we have known and believed the **love** that God hath to us. God is **love**; and he that dwelleth in **love** dwelleth in God, and God in him.”*

[2] Human:

Such as that between a husband and wife lawfully joined in wedlock-

Gen. 24:67 *“And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he **loved** her: and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.”*

Eph. 5:25 *“Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;”*

[3] Idolatrous:

Such is that love which idolaters have for idols and strange gods-

Jer. 2:25 *“Withhold thy foot from being unshod, and thy throat from thirst: but thou saidst, There is no hope: no; for I have **loved** strangers, and after them will I go.”*

Jer. 8:2 *“And they shall spread them before the sun, and the moon, and all the host of heaven, whom they have **loved**, and whom they have served, and after whom they have walked, and whom they have sought, and whom they have worshipped: they shall not be gathered, nor be buried; they shall be for dung upon the face of the earth.”*

1Tim. 6:10 *“For the **love** of **money** is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”*

Matt. 10:37 *“He that **loveth** father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that **loveth** son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.”*

(III) Parental and filial:

Gen. 22:2 *“And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou **lovest**, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.”*

Gen. 44:20 *“And we said unto my lord, We have a father, an old man, and a child of his old age, a little one; and his brother is dead, and he alone is left of his mother, and his father **loveth** him.”*

Pro. 13:24 *“He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that **loveth** him chasteneth him betimes.”*

Heb. 12:6 *“For whom the Lord **loveth** he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.”*

(IV) Spiritual:

as, [1] The Love of God towards his children-

John 17:23 *“I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast **loved** me.”*

Rom. 5:5-8 *“And hope maketh not ashamed; because the **love** of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. For*

*when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his **love** toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."*

[2] Their Love to God-

*Psalm 116:1 "I **love** the LORD, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications."*

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

*Psalm 119:47 And I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have **loved**.*

[3] Of Christ to his church-

*Eph. 3:17-19 "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."*

*Eph. 5:2 "And walk in **love**, as Christ also hath **loved** us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour."*

[4] To some particular persons-

John 2:2 "And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage."

*Gal. 2:20 "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who **loved** me, and gave himself for me."*

John 13:23 "Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved." (4 more times in the book of John this phrase is used! Did Jesus have a "favorite" Yes!)

RH February 15, 1881, par. 2

"The apostle John was distinguished above his brethren as "the disciple whom Jesus loved." ... he possessed an amiable disposition, and a warm, loving heart, capable of the deepest and most earnest devotion. He seems

to have enjoyed, in a pre-eminent sense, the friendship of Christ, and he received many tokens of the Saviour's confidence and love. ...

The Saviour's affection for the beloved disciple was returned with all the strength of ardent devotion. John clung to Christ as the vine clings to the stately pillar. For the Master's sake he braved the dangers of the judgment hall, and lingered about the cross; and at the tidings that Christ had risen, he hastened to the sepulcher, in his zeal outstripping even the impetuous Peter. RH February 15, 1881, par. 3

John's affection for his Master was not a mere human friendship, but the love of a repentant sinner, who felt that he had been redeemed by the precious blood of Christ. He esteemed it the highest honor to work and suffer in the service of his Lord. His love for Jesus led him to love all for whom Christ died. His religion was of a practical character.” RH February 15, 1881, par. 4

John 14:23 “Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.”

[5] The love of believers towards Christ-

*Cant. 1:4-7 “Draw me, we will run after thee: the king hath brought me into his chambers: we will be glad and rejoice in thee, we will remember thy **love** more than wine: the upright **love** thee. ... Tell me, O thou whom my soul **loveth**, where thou feedest, where thou makest thy flock to rest at noon: for why should I be as one that turneth aside by the flocks of thy companions?”*

*John 21:15 “So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, **lovest** thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I **love** thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs.”*

*Mat 10:37 “He that **loveth** father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that **loveth** son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.”*

[6] To one another-

*John 15:17 “These things I command you, that ye **love** one another.”*

*Col. 1:4 “Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the **love** which ye have to all the saints.”*

*Ruth 4:15 “And he shall be unto thee a restorer of thy life, and a nourisher of thine old age: for thy daughter in law, which **loveth** thee, which is better to thee than seven sons, hath born him.”*

[7] Of pastors towards their people-

*1 Cor. 16:24 “My **love** be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.*

*2 Cor. 2:4 “For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote unto you with many tears; not that ye should be grieved, but that ye might know the **love** which I have more abundantly unto you.”*

[8] Of hearers to their teachers-

*2 Cor. 8:7,8 “Therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your **love** to us, see that ye abound in this grace also. I speak not by commandment, but by occasion of the forwardness of others, and to prove the sincerity of your **love**.*

*1 Thess. 5:13 “And to esteem them very highly in **love** for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.”*

*Tit. 3:15 “All that are with me salute thee. Greet them that **love** us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.”*

IS THERE A DANGEROUS KIND OF LOVE?

(V) Carnal-

*2 Sam. 13:4 “And he said unto him, Why art thou, being the king's son, lean from day to day? wilt thou not tell me? And Amnon said unto him, I **love** Tamar, my brother Absalom's sister.”*

Prov. 7:18 “Come, let us take our fill of love until the morning: let us solace ourselves with loves. For the goodman is not at home, he is gone a long journey: He hath taken a bag of money with him, and will come home at the day appointed.”

(VI) Wicked-

*2 Chron. 19:2 “And Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him, and said to king Jehoshaphat, Shouldest thou help the ungodly, and **love** them that hate the LORD? therefore is wrath upon thee from before the LORD.”*

*Rev. 22:15 “For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever **loveth** and maketh a lie.”*

IS THERE MORE THAN ONE KIND OF LOVE?

By now we should be able to see that there is more than one kind of Love.

Love is not a complete word, when a young girl comes into the room and says: “I’m in LOVE!!” Everyone holds their breath to hear WHAT she Loves or WHOM she Loves! Especially her parents! In their minds they are wondering if the object of her affection is worthy of her “LOVE.” Hoping against hopes that she will have some good common sense to go along with her emotions. That she will realize that there are many types of “LOVE” and not all of them are good!

There is a dangerous sort of “LOVE” that will wreck her happiness for life, if she puts “LOVE” First instead of last, as the word of God has it on Peter’s ladder! In these last hours of earth’s history we must understand this topic if we would be kept through the hour of Temptation that shall come upon the whole world to TRY THEM! It all has to do with LOVE! What KIND of “LOVE” we have.

Dan 12:10 Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.”

*Dan 8:25 “And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and **by peace shall destroy** many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.”*

There were 1260 years of persecution and death for the people of God, and yet they could not be stamped out! Their blood was seed which caused more to long to have a LOVE for God so deep that they would die for Him!

Satan changed his tactics to gain followers, and Dan 8:25 tells us just how he would do it! By peace, by LOVE, by UNITY and acceptance of everybody.

4SP 41-42 “The blood of the Christians is seed. Thousands were imprisoned and slain; but others sprung up to fill their places. And those who were martyred for their faith were secured to Christ, and accounted

of him as conquerors. ...and, where least expected, the subjects of Satan were leaving his service, and enlisting under the banner of Christ.

*Satan therefore laid his plans to war more successfully against the government of God, by planting his banner **IN** the Christian church. **IF** the followers of Christ could be deceived, and led to displease God, **THEN** their strength, fortitude, and firmness would fail, and they would fall an easy prey. The great adversary now endeavored to gain by **artifice** what he had **failed** to **secure** by **force**. **Persecution ceased, and in its stead were substituted the dangerous allurements of temporal prosperity and worldly honor.**"*

While the **majority** look to some future time of Persecution; they fail to realize that daily they are being lured into the net of the Advisory, with the ruby red lips of the Doctrine of DEVILS! Top of the list being:

1. "UNCONDITIONAL LOVE"

There is an "OMEGA of APOSTASY!" And we are to "MEET IT" **1SM 197 to 205**; But do we even know what it is? **SpTBo2 15, 16.2**. The instruction to "GOD'S people" or "the PEOPLE OF GOD" or the "Remnant" at this time is: "No longer consent to listen!" To the "OMEGA!" But "Unmask the pretentious sophistries!" **1SM 196**.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THESE "SOPHISTRIES?"

The same book= **1SM 196-205** gives you SOME of the answers. But in **EW p.88** and **263**. It is likened to a TRAIN, and it seemed "THE WHOLE WORLD" was on Board. This TRAIN is Powered by "UNIVERSALISM!" Which is "OCCULTISM" surprising to some who think "SPIRITUALISM=SATANISM" is only the idea of killing people would be Surprised to learn why it fascinates so many people, because it zeroes in on "LOVE!"

"SPIRITUALISM CHAPTER"

Satan holds people SPELL-BOUND with his: "*Eloquent portrayals of "LOVE!" And "CHARITY!"*" This is developed from **GC 554 to 558** And in between.

*"Multitudes eagerly accept teachings that leave them at liberty to **obey** the **promptings** of the **carnal heart**. The reins of **self-control** are laid*

*upon the **neck of LUST**, the **powers of mind and soul** are made subject to the **animal propensities**, and **Satan** exultingly **sweeps** into his **net THOUSANDS** who “**profess**” to be followers of Christ. **GC88 555.3***