

# Releasing the Father's Love

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## **I. To know God is to freely receive His love and give it to others (I John 4:7-8).**

- A. Experiencing God's love is a spiritual, supernatural encounter with God's presence (I John 4:10-13; Romans 5:3-5; 8:14-16).
  - 1. Bilquis Sheik— "Talk to Him as if He were your father."
  - 2. Charles Finney and D.L. Moody
  - 3. My testimony
- B. Our whole Christian experience and practice can be summarized by I John 4:13-21.
  - 1. Trusting Jesus as the Son of God (I John 4:15)
  - 2. Knowing and relying on God's love for us (I John 4:16)
  - 3. "We love because He first loved us (I John 4:19).

## **II. Staying in God's presence is the key to fulfilling God's commands, and most of His commands revolve around loving others (I John 4:19-5:3).**

- A. God's commands are not burdensome (I John 5:3; John 14:23).
- B. Bilquis Sheik said to God, "I will obey You. I always thought it a sacrifice to give up my own will. But it's no sacrifice, because it keeps me close to You. How could Your presence be a sacrifice?"
- C. Only God's love can change our appetite for the world (Phil. 3:7-8).

## **III. When I feel connected to God's presence, I can discern and release the Father's compassionate heart all around me. If God is doing anything in the world, surely loving it is His priority.**

- A. Something happens to our spiritual eyes toward others when we feel loved and accepted by God. We see individuals, cultures, and the whole world differently (E.g., D.L. Moody).
- B. We commit ourselves to promoting the joyful family business (John 15:15-17; Matthew 10:7-8; Luke 10:17-24).
- C. Family promises for those who work with the Father to love the world (Isaiah 58:6-12).

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