

All Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version of the Bible unless otherwise indicated.
June 2, 2009

**GOD is
LOVE
Mini-Book
Part 1**

Published for:

HANDS FOR JESUS
P.O. BOX 18655
MILWAUKEE, WI 53218-0655

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Introduction

This is Part 1 of a series of Mini-books on **“God is Love.”** This series is not the same as the larger book titled **“God is Love.”** The larger book focuses upon “why God created man in His own likeness and image.”? The larger book is available by downloading from our Web sites at:

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This series of Mini-books will focus upon “God and His love for mankind.” If we do not know God by His love, we do not truly know God. **“...For God is Love”** (1 John 4:8).

There are two god’s in this world. There is the God of all creation (mentioned all throughout the Bible from Genesis through Revelation). Then there is also the god of this world mentioned specifically in 2 Corinthians 4:4, where it says **“In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.”** This is speaking of Satan, the Devil, who is a god also.

The word “god” means “any of various beings conceived of as supernatural, immortal, and having special powers over the lives and affairs of people and the course of nature.” Man is not a “god” in the true form of a god. Man does not have supernatural powers over the affairs of people. Only God and Satan have that type of power, to operate in the spiritual realm beyond that of the ability of man.

Mankind is subject to either GOD or Satan, depending upon which one man submits to. Romans 6:16 explains this the best by saying, **“Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?”** It has always been man’s choice as to whom he will submit to, GOD or the Devil?

Therefore, it is important to know Who is the supreme God of this creation (the One who created all things, including the Devil). What God had inspired to be written in the Scriptures is for our knowledge and understanding of all things. Therefore, when it is written in 1 John 4:8, **“God is Love,”** we can know God by His Love. As an example, just as we know water by its form and substance, we know God by His Love.

It is important to know what is written in the Word of God, for His Word is one of the three witnesses that God has given us here on earth to know what is truth, and discern that which is not true. In 1 John 5:7,8, it says, **“For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one...And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water (Word), and the blood: and these three agree in one.”**

The word **“water”** used in 1 John 5:8 is symbolic of **“the Word of God.”** Many times God uses symbolic words rather than literal words to help us understand spiritual things, which cannot otherwise be understood in the natural mind. In 1 Corinthians 2:14 it tells us, **“the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.”** Therefore, those who try to understand the Word of God in 1 John 5:8, thinking it is speaking of “water baptism” are trying to understand spiritual things with their natural mind. We must be taught by God if we are to understand spiritual things.

Therefore, Jesus, quoting the Scriptures said in John 6:45, **“It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God....”** We must be taught by God if we are to know the Truth,

and inherit eternal life with God in heaven when we leave this earth.

Being that God is Love, and loves man, whom He created in His own image and likeness we should get to know God. How can we serve the God of all creation, if we do not truly know God?

Things do not naturally happen to people by accident, there is a purpose behind everything that happens. We must know what that purposes is, and who is behind the purpose for which it happens?

We must also have a purpose in our lives, or we will be taken advantage of by someone else for their purpose. The purpose for which we live, will determine what will happen in our lives here on earth and hereafter in eternity.

We must choose our destiny, or someone else will control what happens to us. We have the choice of choosing our destiny in this life and in eternity. God has given us that choice, which we call a free will to choose for ourselves.

Those who do not make a choice in their lives, as to whom they will submit to, will be controlled by the Devil without their knowing who is in control of their eternal existence. This came about already in the Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve submitted mankind to the Devil by eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. When that happened a curse came upon all mankind, called "the curse of the law of sin and death." Sin and death passed upon all mankind, therefore all have sin and death residing in their being (Rom. 5:12).

It is only by the Love of God that we can be free of the sin and death that came upon mankind in the Garden of Eden. Total freedom of sin and death will not come to us until mortality and corruption are overcome in our lives (1 Cor. 15:51-55).

Our physical bodies still have mortality resident in them. Therefore, people age as life goes on, and it is not possible for us to stop that aging process without overcoming mortality which is resident in our physical bodies. The length of our days is determined by how we live our lives and God's plan and purpose for our lives. We are the ones who determine what happens according to God's eternal plan for each one of us individually.

There is a time appointed by God for the length of our lives here on earth (Acts 17:26). We must know God and His plans for our lives if we want to fulfill our time here on earth before we go off into eternity forever and ever.

It is not a choice of us doing our own will, but of us doing the will of God for our lives. He is the Creator and He is still in control of all that He created. The created are always subject to the creator. We will always be controlled by a god, whither it is the God of all creation, or the god of this world.

Therefore, let us get to know the God of all creation, and follow Him, and serve Him all the days of our lives. He is God and there is none other like Him (Isa. 46:9,10).

GOD IS LOVE

Part 1

Christians who do not know God by His love, do not truly know God, they only know about Him. This is sad, because there are so many people calling themselves Christians, without knowing God by His love.

Baby Christians know about God, but mature Christians should know God by His love. It is the love of God that causes a person to know Him and experience the fulness of His love in their lives.

Mature Christians should understand spiritual things, but baby Christians are still being controlled by the god of this world, not knowing the power of God that comes by His love.

The Apostle Paul wrote to the Church at Corinth in 1 Corinthians 3:1-3, saying, **“And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ...I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able...For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?”** Those who are mature in the LORD do not walk in envy, strife, or divisions. There is only one body of Christ, and all who are in Christ are a part of that one body.

In the book of James it tells us, **“But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth...This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish...For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work”** (James 3:14-16).

When we know God by His love, we can be free of all the works of the Devil. I was born in a family that belonged to a church. I attended Bible teachings from the age of six until about fourteen. I had knowledge of the Bible, and thought I knew God.

At the age of sixteen, I knew there was something more than what I was taught. I determined in my mind to study my Bible to find the answers I needed to know. I became involved in Church work, working with Pastors, teaching Sunday School, working on Church councils, etc. This I continued until I was in my forties.

At the age of forty-five I was struggling with issues in my life which I could not control. I cried out to the LORD and asked Him to take over my life. I could no longer live the way I lived. Religion is not the answer to the problems we face in this life. It takes the love of God to set us free.

That night when I prayed and asked the LORD to take over my life, a whole new way of living entered into my soul. My thinking changed. My outlook on life changed. I was a new creature in Christ. When I surrendered my will to the LORD and let Him have control, my whole life changed.

This was the beginning of a new life in Christ. But, it was only the beginning, I had a long way to go. At first, I needed to understand what happened that I could no longer think the way I use to think. The desires of my heart had changed.

Three days later, I had an experience with God that helped me to understand what happened. I was sitting in my living room, when all of a sudden I saw myself standing in the sky on a big white fluffy cloud, looking down toward the earth, and seeing all that I had gained in my life, my houses, business, and everything I had.

Then a bright light shined down on me and a voice spoke to me, saying, *“All of this will pass*

away, the only thing that will matter is your relationship to Me!” This was the beginning of my understanding of the love of God. How He changed my life so I could live for Him. Until we permit God to change our lives by His love working in us, we will never know the true love that God has for us.

Over the years I have had many experiences with God, in many ways. I have heard the audible voice of God, and I have heard the audible voice of the Devil. I have had angels appear to me. I have experienced the love of God, and His power to heal my body many, many times without Doctors or medication. I have seen others receive healing as I prayed for them many times.

God has taught me many things, spiritual and natural things. Things I did not learn on my own. They came to me supernaturally. There is nothing too hard for God, for with God all things are possible.

Until we know God by His love, we do not truly know God, we only know about God. Christians, “even many spirit-filled Christians” do not truly know God by His love. Many who say they are called of God to the ministry are still walking in envy, strife, and divisions. If they truly knew God by His love there would be no envy, strife, or divisions among them, for these are all works of the Devil.

Satan will still have a place in our lives until the love of God within us drives out all envy, strife, and divisions among us. We cannot truly serve God while there is envy, strife, and divisions among us.

Let us get to know God by His love. When we truly know God by His love, then we will experience God in our lives, in everything we do.

In 1 John 4:8 it says, “**He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love (agape).**” The English versions of the Bible do not give us a good understanding of the love of God. In the Greek, the word used for love in 1 John 4:8 is “agape.” This word “agape” is only used when it pertains to the love of God in a person or the love of God itself. This Greek word “agape” is not speaking of human love. The Greek word used for human love is “phileo.” Agape is unconditional love.

God’s love is unconditional love. It can only operate when and where God is involved. It cannot operate independently without God being involved in some form or other. It is a fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22,23).

Every born again Christian has the love of God in them. They received it when they became born again of the Word and the Spirit (1 Peter 1:23; John 3:5).

To help identify this love of God we see a description of it in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. In the New King James Version it says, “**Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up...does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil...does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth...bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.**”

This is the way God’s love manifests in God and in Christians who are walking in love. When these attributes are not manifesting in the lives of Christians, there is a condition whereby God is not involved.

Whatsoever is not of God has its source in the Devil. Demons work for the Devil in inflecting all kinds of operations in people. They work through the minds of people and they inflect the physical bodies of people with deformities, sickness, and disease.

The love of God will drive these demons out of our flesh and out of our minds. We must know God by His love that we can receive from God deliverance from every work of the Devil.

The better we know the Scriptures the more successful we will be at activating the love of God in our lives, and setting ourselves and others free of the works of the Devil.

Being that God is love, everything God does for mankind is connected with His love. Begging God to do something will not accomplish very much. But, knowing God and His love for mankind will help us receive deliverance from all the works of the Devil.

We have been given many great and precious promises from God (2 Peter 1:4). Every promise that God has given us is based upon His love for us. We must receive these great and precious promises by the love of God that abides in us.

Faith is one of the avenues which we can use to receive from God whatsoever we have need of. Faith works by love (agape) (Gal. 5:6). Without faith, love does not work. These two work together, the love of God and our faith which God has given us. Faith is also a fruit of the Spirit which is given to us when we are born again (Gal. 5:22,23).

I had a woman come to me one day with pain in her leg. She said she had a stiff leg for about four years and at that time she also had pain in that leg. After spending time with her in the Word, I had her watch while the LORD adjusted the legs on another person. Then I told her, "*Just as easily as it was for the LORD to adjust this other person's legs, He will also heal her leg.*"

Then I prayed for her, thanking the LORD for His love for her. How He loved her so much, and would manifest His healing power in her leg. Then I used the name of Jesus to command healing in her leg. I told her, from that moment on, whenever she felt pain or noticed stiffness in her leg to say, "*By Jesus' stripes she is healed.*"

She walked out of the door saying, "*By Jesus' stripes I am healed.*" The next morning, she called my house and left a message on my answering machine. She did not have any pain or stiffness in her leg. About a month later, she called to see if I was going to be home that day. When I told her I would be home, she came over to tell me she did not have any pain or stiffness since the night I had prayed for her.

God is love, and God works by His love. Everything God did for mankind, He did it because God is love. His love for mankind is so great that He sent His Son, Jesus, to take away the sins of the world (John 3:16,17). Jesus came to destroy the works of the Devil (1 John 3:8).

When we walk in the love of God, Satan has no place in our lives. When the love of God manifests in our lives the Devil has no power over us.

Satan is a liar. There is no truth in him (John 8:44). He is a deceiver, and has deceived many into thinking he has man's dominion here on earth. That is a lie of the Devil, and many believe his lies. Satan could not get man's dominion, because man's dominion only operates when man walks in the likeness and image of God, operating in God's love. Satan cannot walk in the likeness and image of God, and Satan has no love in him.

Man has dominion over all that God created upon this earth, but that dominion only works when man walks in love. Dominion and the likeness and image of God is a package deal (Gen. 1:26). You cannot have one without the other. Satan uses force and deception, whereby God works by love.

Many Christians suffer today because the love of God in them has grown cold (Matt. 24:12). Many have left their first love of the Father (Rev. 2:4). Some have gone into envy, strife, and there are divisions among them (James 3:14-16). These things, along with many others prevent the love of God from operating in the lives of Christians.

The whole Bible, from Genesis through Revelation shows us the love of God and how it can set us free of all the works of the Devil. God is waiting for Christians to walk in His love so He can

set them free of all the works of the Devil.

We do not need religion in our lives, we need to know the love of God. To truly know the love of God in our lives we must experience God working in us and through us by His love. When we give ourselves wholly over to God in everything we do, He can reveal His love to us. God is looking for those who will give Him freedom to work in their lives in everything they do.

The Holy Spirit is God with the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit is love, and He teaches us in love, to know the love of God that abides in us. By His love, we know God. When we truly know God, we can walk in love and experience the love of God working in our lives the same way the love of God worked in the life of Jesus.

God is love. God does not look at people the way religious people look at people. God's love is unconditional. God did not send Jesus into this world to destroy lives, but to save them (Luke 9:56).

As an example, when Jesus went through Samaria in John 4:4-24 He stopped at a well and said to a woman of Samaria, **"If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water"** (John 4:10).

The religious people of the Jewish nation did not want anything to do with the Samaritans. Besides all of that, this woman had five husbands in the past and the man she was living with at the time was not her husband.

God loves those whom He created in His own likeness and image. Just because Satan had filled their minds with his knowledge of good and evil and had gotten them to live in sin, God did not forget them.

God knows everyone. God is Love, and wants to set people free of the works of the Devil. That woman at the well in Samaria was given the opportunity to drink of "the living water" that Jesus offered to her that day.

God has never stopped loving man. From Genesis through Revelation, the Word of God declares, whosoever will, let him come and receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance into the family of God.

God is for saving mankind from the works of the Devil. God sent Jesus into this world to destroy the works of the Devil, that people could be saved.

In Acts 2:21 it says, **"...it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved."** In Revelation 22:17, it says, **"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."**

God is love, and God wants everyone to receive His love and live forever with Him in eternity. No matter what someone has done in the past, God's love is here to deliver and protect them from all the works of the Devil.

It was because of the love of God that He created man in His own likeness and image in the beginning. God is love. God loves man whom He created in His own likeness and image. When we receive the love of God and walk in it, the power of God manifests in our lives and Satan has no power over us.

You can experience the true love of God in your life. Let God have His way in your life. Let God show you His love by walking in love toward others. When the love of God manifests in your life, you will know how much God loves you also.

It is our desire to see God manifest in your life by His love working in you and through you. We love the LORD our God for He is love and He will manifest His love in the lives of those who love Him.

This is the first of a series of Mini-books on **“GOD is LOVE.”** They will help you to receive from God all that God has promised us in His Word.

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