

THE GREATEST LOVE STORY

The Theme of Christmas

LOVE STORIES

Everybody enjoys a good love story!

History is full of these stories—some of them factual, some of the fictional, some of them a little of both.

So let's test your knowledge of love stories, real and imagined...



???

This is the story of two teenagers, in Italy, who fall in love during a ball. The only problem is that their families hate each other. She is pursued by another man and promised to him by her father. In her attempt to escape to her true love, things go tragically wrong...



ROME AND JULIET



???

He was a powerful Roman General.

She was a mighty Egyptian Queen.

Caught in a political struggle, they fought the Roman Empire for their union.

When the tide of war was turning against them, thinking she had died he took his own life. When she learned of it, she did the same...



CLEOPATRA AND MARK ANTHONY



???

The time is the early 1600s. She was the daughter of an Native American chief, Powhatan. He was an English explorer.

He was captured by Native Americans but she saved his life. They became close friends, until he returned to England...



POCAHONTAS AND JOHN SMITH



POCAHONTAS AND JOHN SMITH



???

She was a queen, the wife of king Menelaus, of the ancient city of Sparta. He was the son of king Priam, of Troy.

In his visit to Sparta, he fell in love and abducted the queen. The result was an epic war and a famous wooden horse...



HELEN OF TROY AND PARIS



???

This young couple was married and in love. Then, war broke out and he, a brave warrior, was summoned to war.

After the war, his return is beset by adversity so that it takes 20 years for him to get back to his love. In this time, she is pursued by over 100 suitors but remains faithful to her beloved. At last, they are reunited...



ODYSSEUS AND PENELOPE



???

He was heir to the throne of England. She was a divorced American socialite. They fell in love and shocked the nation, throwing Britain into a constitutional crisis. With strong opposition from the church and government over their marriage, he abdicated the throne. In a speech to the nation, in 1936, he said, "I have found it impossible to carry the heavy burden of responsibility and to discharge my duties as king as I would wish to do without the help and support of the woman I love."



EDWARD VIII AND WALLIS SIPSON



???

He was a young king. She was a peasant girl, working in her father's fields. When they saw each other, it was love at first sight!

He courted her but her brothers and the community mocked their relationship. After a near break up, they finally marry and consummate their love



KING SOLOMON AND THE SHULAMITE



???

He, a prince of England and the Duke of Sussex. She, a divorced American actress. Then, love happened and in May 2018 they married with all the pomp and circumstance of the British empire.



PRINCE HARRY AND MEGHAN MARKEL



EVEN SO...

As beautiful as
these stories are,
none of them
compare to the
greatest love story
of all time!



JOHN 3:16



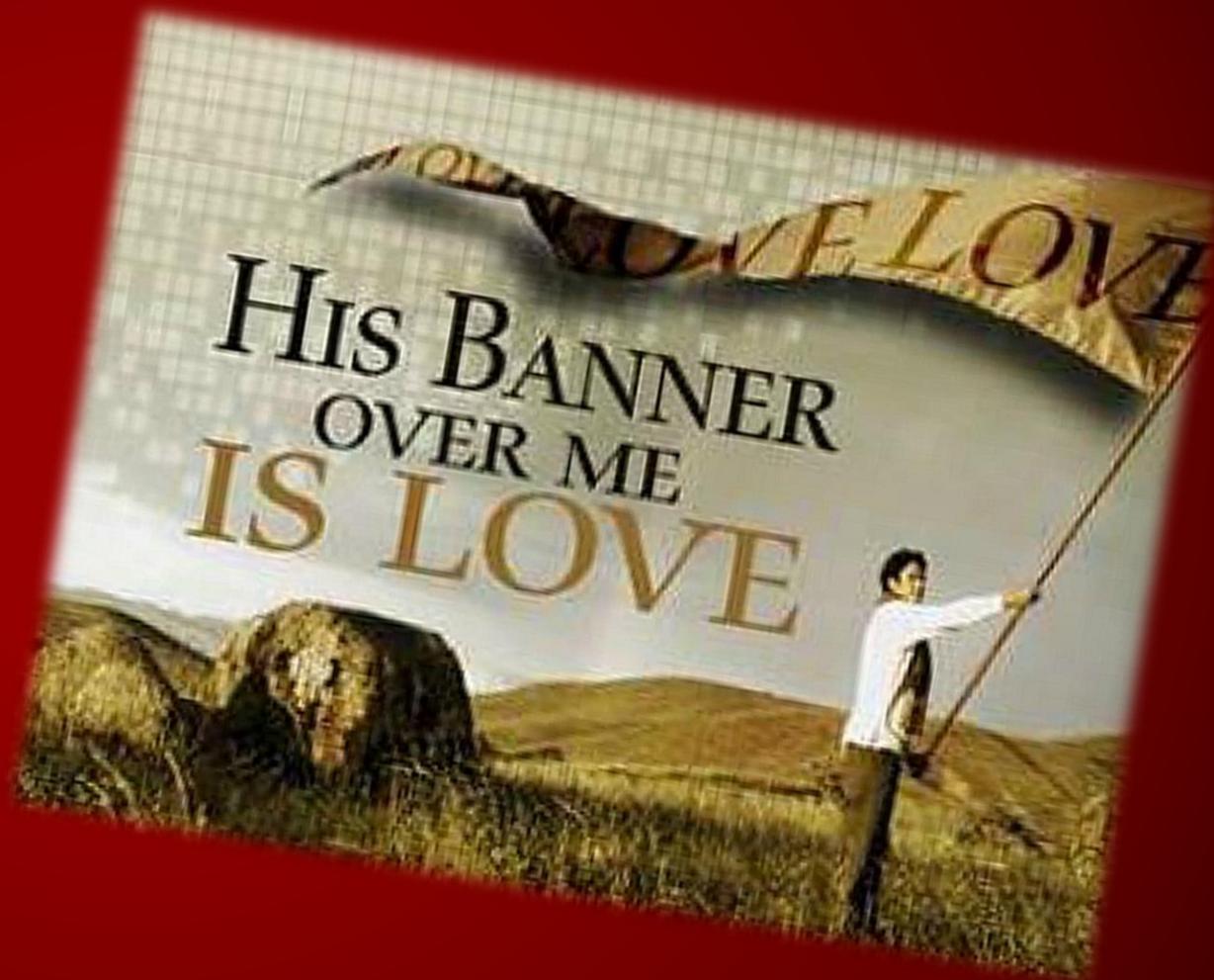
JEREMIAH 31:3

³ The LORD appeared to us in the past, saying: “I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.

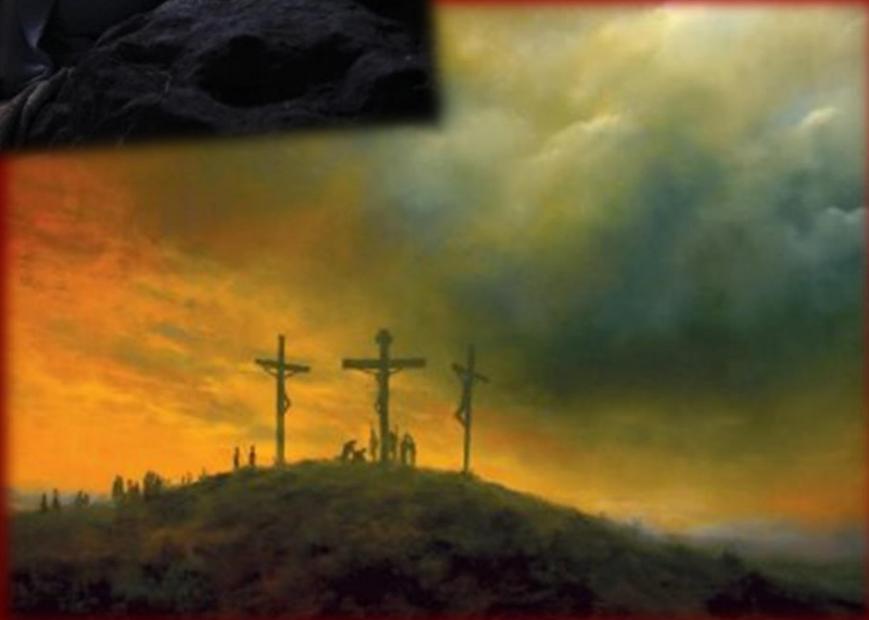
“Everlasting Love”

SONGS OF SOLOMON 2:4

⁴ Let him lead me to
the banquet hall,
and let his banner
over me be love.



THE LOVE OF GOD



John 3:16

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

THE LOVE OF GOD



The greater source of love: GOD!

The greatest object of love: the world!

The greatest price of love: His Son!

The greatest sacrifice: Jesus' life!

The greatest prize: Eternal life!

It is a love story, from beginning to end! The greatest love story ever told!

