

GOD'S LOVE IN FOUR DIMENSIONS

There are no new truths in God's Word, but there are many gems yet to be discovered. Finding spiritual treasures will often take the pursuit and persistence of an Indiana Jones. Jesus told us 'Seek and you will find'. King Solomon gave similar advice.

' It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but it is the glory of kings to search out a matter.'

- Proverbs 25:2

Meditation on God's Word is a way to find these spiritual nuggets. When I was growing up my father took our family on leisurely Sunday afternoon drives in the summertime through the rural country roads in upstate western NY. Many were dirt roads we rarely traveled otherwise. My father drove slow....real slow. We noticed certain things along the way about various farms and properties that we would have missed otherwise. It is the same when we journey through the Word of God. We get more from it when we **pause and ponder** than when we just read. That is when we have the joy of finding hidden riches from God. This was true for me when I meditated on Paul's prayer.

*'....I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that he may grant you, according to his **riches of his glory**, to be strengthened with might through his Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell (feel at home) in your hearts through faith; that you being **rooted and grounded in love**, may be **able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height** - to know the **love of Christ which passes knowledge**, that you may be **filled with all the fullness of God....'** - Ephesians 3:14-19*

As God was getting me more rooted and grounded in his love, I began to wonder if the key to finding God's love in four dimensions was right within the letter that Paul had written. Here are some rich gems I discovered when I went deeper into the mine of Ephesians guided by the search light of the Holy Spirit.

God's love stretches wide......from Jew to Gentile (Eph. 2:11-18) Every tribe and nation is welcome to become one new man in Christ! Jesus' road is narrow but the invitation is wide open for any and everyone.

God's love reaches deep......to the earth's lowest and worst of sinners (Eph. 2:1-4) Paul felt like he was the worst of sinners but look how God reached down to change his life! -1 Timothy 1:15-16

God's love takes us high We are seated with Christ in heavenly places (Eph. 2:6) We are part of the Royal family and can function as kings with authority on the earth.

God's love is great in length God's love chose us in the eternal past (Eph. 1:4-5)
God's love has glorious plans for us in the eternal future.
(Eph. 2:7, 5:27)

As we slow down and ponder these truths, we will have a greater appreciation of God's love for us. Such revelation is far beyond human understanding, but it will increase our love for God in our inner man (our spirit).

These 4 aspects of God's love are not just spiritual concepts, they are embodied in the person of Jesus, for He is God and God is love. No one walked this earth with more love per square inch inside than Jesus. Jesus is God's love in its fullness and it was demonstrated in his life.

Jesus' love reached deep. He was a friend of sinners and showed love even to his worst enemies at the end. On the cross he said 'Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing.' He suffered the depths of hell's torment on the cross when all the sins of mankind were placed on him and all the forces of Satan were arrayed against him, but they could not win, for love never fails.

He went from the **depths of darkness** and went back to the **heights of heavenly glory** after his resurrection and ascension. Jesus was there in the **eternal past** and now awaits us in the **eternal future**. Even now His Spirit of love still calls us and draws us to Him. He also uses us to draw others to Himself.

'And the Spirit and the bride say come, And let him who hears say 'come' and let him who hears say 'come'. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely. - Revelation 22:17

Jesus is God's love in 4 dimensions and His Spirit is the one who makes it a reality in our lives. Join us next time as we travel to Niagara Falls and learn more about God's love.

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