

GRASP THIS LOVE

And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Ephesians 3:17b-19

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Love*

“What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us . . . We tend by a secret law of the soul to move toward our mental image of God. The most (determining) fact about any man is not what he at any given time may say or do, but what he in his deep heart conceives God to be like.” A. W. Tozer

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The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. ⁶ The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, ⁷ keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty . . .” Exodus 34:5-7

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“A mountain of heads I erected in from of the conquered king’s city. Their youths and their maidens I burnt up in the flames.”

“I pierced his [another conquered king] chin with my dagger. Through his jaw I passed a rope, put a dog chain upon him, and kept him in a kennel in the city square.”

“I flayed his skin and spread it on the walls of the city.”

“I tied them up and made them listen to “Let it Go” both day and night.”

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“But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. 2 He prayed to the Lord, “Isn’t this what I said, Lord, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. Jonah 4:1-2 NIV

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“Go and marry a prostitute, and have children with her. This will illustrate how Israel has acted like a prostitute by turning against the LORD and worshiping other gods.”

Hosea 1:2

And the LORD said to me, “Go again, love this woman who is... an adulteress, even as the LORD loves the children of Israel, though they turn to other gods...” 3:1

"Oh, how can I give you up, Israel? How can I let you go? My heart is torn within me!" 11:8

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1. Do you believe in the steadfast love of the Father?
2. Have you embraced his love for you?
3. Have you sensed his love for others?

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