

UNDERSTANDING GOD'S LOVE!

The idea that we need to seek God in order to find him, that we need to wait for God in order for him to come, that we have to love him first in order to be loved, that we have to first keep his commandments in order to receive something from him, is an Old Testament concept. God gave them the law not for them to fulfil it but so that they would realize that they could not keep it however hard they tried. In the New Testament, God seeks us and finds us. He calls us and we respond to his call. He carries us, not the other way around. He loves us first and we respond to his love. We did not contact him. He came and established contact with us. He is our Father, we are his children. We allow ourselves to be loved just like a child being loved by their parents. We allow ourselves to be carried just like a child being carried by their parents. We allow ourselves to be provided for just like a child being provided for by their parents. A baby does not make any effort to be loved by their parents. Jesus said that we should become like children. We are his beloved children and there is nothing we can do to make him love us more.

Reinhard Bonnke says: ***“Getting to know the greatest of all loves – the love of God – is the greatest of all secrets. If you know that, you have found the answer to the question as to the meaning of life.”***

In no religion can you find a God of love; there are only angry gods. These are inaccessible and humans are poor worms, trying to appease the anger of the gods through sacrifices and good deeds in order to earn their favour. People live with a permanent guilty conscience and fear the punishment of the gods. The God of the Bible is the opposite. He comes down to us, humbles himself and becomes one of us because he wants to “marry” us, to be united with us. He loves us even though we wanted nothing to do with him. He wants to have us, does not want to be without us. He wants to share his life, heaven and eternity with us – but there was a problem for him that had to be solved first.

I once heard the story of a man who fell in love with a woman and did not want to live without her any longer. He wanted to share his life, his money and his future with her. Then he asked her one day if she would like to become his wife.

She told him she could not marry him because she was so heavily in debt and needed to work day and night just to pay off the debt. The debt was so high that it would take her the rest of her life to pay it off. At this, the man paid all of her debts and asked her again if she would now like to be his wife. She said “yes” and today they are married. The life of poverty and enslavement under the burden of debt was over. She could have said “no” and would have remained a slave to her debt.

Jesus did the same for us. He woos us! He wants to have us! He wants to live with us and in us! But there was the problem of sin that stood between us and God. God could not be united with us and we were unable to come to him because sin was in the way. We would never have been able to pay that debt. Jesus came and paid the debt in full on the cross with his blood. The debt has now been eradicated and he asks us if he may now be our Lord? God did that out of love for us. We have done nothing to deserve it. He offers us a life in fellowship with him. He was ready to die on the cross because he does not want to live without us. We could, however, say “no” and reject his offer. Jesus says: “I died for you because I do not want to be without you. I died for you so that I can be in you and live with you forever.”

Living with Jesus does not mean that I work for him but rather that I work with him and allow him to live in me. Paul said: I no longer live, but Jesus is now living his life in me and through me! We no longer need to strive to be something or become something that we already are. Life with Jesus is supernatural. He lives me, he leads me, he carries me, he loves me!

As a child I imagined what it would be like to be a bird and have the ability to fly. I made myself wings, climbed on a chair and wanted to fly, but I ended up on the floor. The law of gravity was stronger. But now I am constantly flying to Africa. I climb into a plane and the plane flies me. It is strong enough and can overcome the law of gravity. If you live in Jesus and climb into him, then he lives you and “flies” you! He is stronger than the law of sin. But if I got out of the plane when we were above the clouds, I would come under the law of gravity again and would fall a long way. When we are in Jesus, the law of sin has no more power over us. A new law now has control of us: the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus. Maria Prean says it like this: Living with God means: Let go and let God!

World Wide Evangelism

Postfach 500231
60392 Frankfurt am Main
Tel. 06186 9143727
info@wwevangel.org
www.wwevangel.org

Evangelische Bank
IBAN: DE85 5206 0410 0004 0039 93
BIC: GENODEF1EK1

