



Knowledge of the Holy

Chapter 20: The Love of God

Our Father which art in heaven, we Thy children are often troubled in mind, hearing within us at once the affirmations of faith and accusations of conscience. We are sure that there is in us nothing that could attract the love of One as holy and as just as Thou art. Yet Thou hast declared Thine unchanging love for us in Christ Jesus. If nothing in us can win Thy love, nothing in the universe can prevent Thee from loving us.

Thy love is uncaused and undeserved. Thou art Thyself the reason for the love wherewith we are loved. Help us to believe the intensity, the eternity of the love that has found us. Then love will cast out fear; and our troubled hearts will be at peace, trusting not in what we are but in what Thou hast declared Thyself to be. Amen.

The words "God is love" mean that love is an essential attribute of God. Love is something true of God but it is not God. It expresses the way God is in His unitary being, as do the words holiness, justice, faithfulness and truth. Because God is immutable He always acts like Himself, and because He is unity He never suspends one of His attributes in order to exercise the another.

Love wills the good of all and never wills the harm or evil to any. This explains the words of the Apostle John, "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear." Fear is the painful emotion that arises at the thought that we may be harmed or made to suffer...To know that love is of God and to enter into the secret place leaning upon the arm of the Beloved - this and only this can cast out fear.

Read the prayer above and share with the group what stands out to you. What parts do you enjoy and agree with in this prayer, and what parts do you hesitate at?

Of all the attributes of God, love is the most talked about and questioned. How have you experienced the love of God in harmony with His other attributes?

What do you think of Tozer's commentary regarding fear and love? How have you experienced God's love casting out fear in your life?

