

# ABOUNDING LOVE

The Apostle Paul, writing to the Church at Thessalonica, said, *“And the Lord make you to increase and Abound in Love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you”* (1 Thessalonians 3:12).

Abounding Love was very important for the early Church -- and even so today. There are problems and divisions in the Churches because of the lack of real Biblical *“Love one toward another.”*

In this we must be very careful -- compromise is never the answer -- rather a coming together and agreement on the basic fundamentals of the Bible -- God's Infallible Word.

Mathematically speaking -- God is for Addition and Multiplication -- while the devil is for Subtraction and Division.

We are told of the early Church, *“Now all who Believed were together . . . continuing daily with one accord . . . Praising God and having favor with all the people -- and the Lord Added to the Church daily those who were being Saved”* (Acts 2:44-47).

The Holy Spirit brought the new Believers together *“in one accord”* and as others saw their Love they were attracted to the growing group.

Paul considered Love indispensable for growth in the knowledge of God. God's Love can only be experienced when Christians are knit together in Love for the sake of Christ and live for others, not only for themselves.

A Blessed old Hymn of the Church tells it this way -- *“The Love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell -- it goes beyond the farthest star, and reaches to the lowest hell.”*

IF you HAVE witnessed Salvation through the shed Blood of Jesus Christ on the Cross -- you HAVE witnessed the Abounding Love of God.

IF you HAVE NOT received God's Gift of Salvation -- you HAVE NOT witnessed this Abounding Love.

It is written -- *“God is not willing that ANY should perish, but that ALL should come to repentance”* (2 Peter 3:9) -- a real strong evidence of God's Abundant Love. Another strong verse is -- *“For by Grace are you Saved by Faith -- and that not of yourselves -- it is the Gift of God -- not of works, lest anyone should boast”* (Ephesians 2:8,9). Do you see in these two verses the outstretched arms of God waiting for you to surrender completely and accept His Gift of Abounding Love?

It is fully expressed in the most popular verse in the Bible, John 3:16 -- *“For God so Loved the (people of the) world, that He GAVE His only begotten Son (Jesus Christ) that whosoever (you and I) Believes in Him should not perish, BUT have Everlasting Life.”*

We can close with another use of our title word -- “Abounding” -- *“I am come that you might have Life -- and that you might have it More Abundantly”* (John 10:10). God's Great Gift of Abundant Life is the expression of His Abounding Love.

Accept this Priceless Gift of God -- Believe -- Receive -- Be Saved -- Rejoice!

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*For more information contact -- Pastor Bruce R. Burke --*

## **OPEN BIBLE MINISTRIES**

*Lake Ariel, PA 18436 -- Phone 570-698-7890*

*Email [openbiblemin@verizon.net](mailto:openbiblemin@verizon.net) -- Web [www.obmworthitall.org](http://www.obmworthitall.org)*