

## The God of Truth and Lovingkindness

### Introduction

- A. In order to understand how to live it is necessary to know God as He is in His character and creative work.
- B. As the God of Truth He always acts in harmony with His own person and what He has said in His Word. His faithfulness is first of all to Himself.
- C. God, in His character, is also the infinite fullness of love. And, because love is an action – We should speak of Him as the God of Truth and lovingkindness. Love is much more than LOVE written on a page.

### I. The Biblical Fact of Divine Love and Kindness.

*For God so loved \_\_\_\_\_ that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*  
John 3:16

Comment: In these few bold words God affirms His love for us. One conclusion we must keep before us is that love is highly personal. It is a relationship between two individuals. The Infinite God loves us as persons. There is no "humanity" for God to love – only persons.

What is the meaning of this love? How does God love us?

1. Love means that we recognize another person as a person.
2. Love means that we give that person rightful place in our life.
3. Love means that we do what is right by that person – by choosing to be sacrificially involved in their life – for their good.

### II. The Historical Proof of Divine Love and Kindness.

*In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.* I John 4:9,10

Comment: The emphasis here is that God's love is an action – designed to bring to us the spiritual benefits – without which we would be lost forever. His divine giving brought about the Incarnation, Crucifixion, and the Resurrection of Jesus Christ! These great events stand out in time as monuments of God's love and kindness.

III. The Provision of Divine Love and Kindness.

*Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children, and walk (live) in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour. Eph. 5:1,2*

Comment: The spiritual provision God has made for us is described in the words "offering" and "sacrifice." As we read these words many Biblical truths stand out in our minds.

1. The terrible reality of our sin and depravity – with its bondage.
2. The understanding that sin is a transgression AGAINST GOD!
3. The human inability to deal with sin or escape its penalty.
4. The spiritual, physical, and eternal death produced by sin.

When Jesus Christ became our offering and sacrifice He became involved in our sinful condition – as our Substitute – to pay the penalty we could not pay and thereby deliver us.

IV. The Personal Element in Divine Love and Kindness.

*I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me, and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. Gal. 2:20*

Comment: When we speak of the Crucifixion of the Lord Jesus and His work there on our behalf – we are talking about something very personal. The penalty Jesus Christ suffered was yours and mine – He endured our hell on that cross. And that suffering was no stage play. The Lord Jesus actually took our place before God.

V. The Demand in Divine Love and Kindness.

*A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another, as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. John 13:34,35*

Comment: To love other believers is the test of our love for God. When we know that God has freely forgiven us all our sins – and then not to forgive someone for their little sins – but to bear a grudge, and live with resentment and bitterness toward them – is to demonstrate our ingratitude and disobedience.

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