



Divine Love Newsletter

Volume 7, No. 2

March 2021

FROM THE EDITORS

Dear beloved friends, welcome to the March 2021 edition of the Divine Love Newsletter! We are pleased to present you with creative works from our dear sisters and brother in the Divine Love Community. First, Ron Shoemaker has written an inspiring article on forgiveness and freedom. As mortals, we sometimes get hurt by the actions or words of others. How we respond to and deal with these hurt emotions affects our soul journey. Ron does a great job showing how forgiveness and freedom go hand-in-hand.

Ruth Duvall shares how she has been sowing seeds of love and truth at Christmas time. As long as we have known Ruth, she has always put others before herself and has been an advocate for the hungry and homeless. She has such a loving heart, always looking to lift and inspire those in need. She once shared how she posted a “prayer mailbox” to collect anonymous prayers of those in need. Time after time, the mailbox would get beaten and battered by vandals, ripped from its post and thrown into the woods. Ruth would continue to find the mailbox and affix it to the post with a sign “bruised but not beaten”. A thirteen-year-old girl was inspired by Ruth’s not giving up on the mailbox. As a result of Ruth’s demonstration of determination, the girl did not give up on her faith in God as she was being bullied by children at school for her beliefs. Eventually, the girl took over maintaining the mailbox. Ruth said that it didn’t really matter if the prayers were read. It was about people reaching out to God in prayer. In this issue she shares how a little gift can go a long way in making someone feel special and that they matter.

We share a story about Socrates’ Triple Filter Test and how it is important to apply the test to information we hear about others in our community. Gossip can do so much damage to one’s reputation with people forming an opinion about a person even before meeting them. It is important to always think before speaking and follow Jesus’ Eleventh Commandment, “Love one another even as I have loved you.”

Terry Adler gives us a wonderful report on the Children’s Sanctuary Namibia Society. Your generous donations in 2020 have resulted in great progress with the construction of a future home for 18 orphaned and vulnerable children. Finding water on the property allowed for sewage tanks, laundry facilities, and separate showers, sinks, and toilets for boys and girls. Most importantly, the donations helped keep the food programs going, feeding 44 kindergarten children daily and over 100 orphaned and vulnerable children three times a week.

Last but certainly not least, Darlene Gaunt shares a beautiful poem, “God’s Portal of Light”.

It is inspiring to see individuals using their God-given gifts for the betterment of others. It is also humbling to see how God is working with and through many to bring about His Plan for the Salvation of Mankind. Some in the community have clearly understood and embraced their gifts. These individuals are walking their path and spreading love and light. There are others who have yet to become consciously aware of their gifts and/or how to apply them. One way of determining where your gifts lie is to try different activities. Perhaps you have the gift of public speaking. How would you know if you don’t try? Maybe you have the gift of healing, writing, music, organizing, marketing, etc. One such example is Jeanne Fike. I think that we can all agree that she has the gift in bringing people together. She recently mentioned that when she is using her gift, she feels connection to God and the love flowing. Perhaps, that is an indicator of whether our gift is from God or a talent that we may have been born with or acquired over our lifetime. May we all come to know and embrace our gifts in order to fully serve God for the good of humanity.

Past issues of the newsletter can be downloaded from the Divine Love Community portal or from the Divine Love Sanctuary Foundation website.

Contributions can be emailed to the editors at editors@fcdt.org (Michael Nedbal and Eva Peck)

FORGIVENESS AND FREEDOM: TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN (RON SHOEMAKER)



Photo: Ron Shoemaker

In the first paragraph of the Prayer Perfect in TGRABJ, Vol. 1, pp. 40-42, God is referred to as Father, the One who is all Holy. To me, all Holy means that He is the perfect embodiment and manifestation of Divine Love and that he is loving and merciful. As His children, we are not subservient, sinful and depraved creatures, but rather, we are the greatest of His creations and the most wonderful of all His handiworks. We are the objects of His great soul's love and tenderest care. Thinking of this as a resume for humankind, how much better can it get? The expectations for humanity must have been high. We all ought to remember this as we begin each day.

The Prayer goes on to claim that God is the bestower of every good and perfect gift and that He is a forgiving Father who smiles upon us in our weakness, always keeps us in the shadow of His love and never hesitates to help, always ready to take us into His arms of love.

But when our souls incarnate and we become denizens of earth, something seems to change. I wondered how we, once thought of as the greatest of His creations and the most wonderful of His handiworks, could become the cause of so much unnecessary pain and suffering that humankind experiences?

In TGRABJ, Vol. 1, p. 125, Ann Rollins writes that the law of compensation states "that what a man sows that shall he reap". On p. 127 she continues, "man of himself has no way of escaping this law except by his long expiation which removes these memories and satisfies the law". No one can avoid the inexorable demands of the law and must pay "the last farthing". Until the scourges of a person's conscience are removed, he or she will suffer. Forgiveness will only be experienced when the causes of these memories are eliminated.

In TGRABJ, Vol. 2, pp. 312-314, Abraham Lincoln writes on how man can regain harmony with the laws that govern him as the created being without obtaining the Divine Love. We are told that the perfect man is still in existence, but must renounce and get rid of those foreign attachments that interfere with the harmony of God's creation. It is only by a process of renunciation that these unnatural additions can be eliminated. A person needs to renounce the idea that he or she is a vile being not worthy of the Father's favor. They must also, by the course of their thinking and living, remove those things that cause them to appear to themselves and others as an outcast.

In Genesis 1:26-27 of the Jerusalem Bible, God says, "Let us make man in our own image". "Male and female He created them". I wondered what the word "image" meant in this context and it dawned on me that it was not unlike an artist who decides to paint a self-portrait. When the painting is completed, the artist is pleased with their efforts. The similarities are astounding. In the book of Genesis, God is pleased and pronounces His work not only good, but very good. As I thought about this, I realized that it was the artist who was authentic and the self-portrait was an image. While the artist could continue being creative with new projects ad infinitum, the human soul and its attributes, no matter how perfect, are like the reflection you see in a mirror. The reflection has no staying power of its own and is limited in its possibilities; it is finite.

I came to realize that our humanity is founded on the purity and richness of the human soul's natural love and its attributes such as compassion, empathy and forgiveness. The natural love's influence would be to treat others as we would want to be treated. But what happens when to the incarnate soul are added the influences of a rationalizing mind and the needs and appetites of a physical body and the spirit body?

While my soul and its natural love might continue to desire to treat others the way it would like to be treated, my physical body with its needs and appetites will also seek to influence my will. I might choose to become attracted to material things, such as money, land and possessions. As my mind's thought patterns develop, I may relish the prestige of gaining power or the pursuit of intellectual knowledge. Political parties and their candidates can seem important. The food and clothing of my culture could become the standard by which I judge others, and skin color and ethnicity may become an indicator of superiority or inferiority.



Photo: Ron Shoemaker

At some point, with my desire to maintain and protect my standard of living or my ambition to gain greater material wealth, it is possible that I may choose to treat others as a means toward an end, thereby causing unnecessary pain and suffering. As I acquire the beliefs, attitudes and biases of the earth plane, my ambition for greater power and material wealth may settle on any number of possibilities. With my physical body's desires demanding satisfaction and my mind's capacity to reason and rationalize, the values and priorities I choose to make dominant may be at odds with my soul's penchant to treat others as it would want to be treated. The question is, which set of aspirations will I choose and to what cause or causes will I devote my time and energy?

With any group, the world views that people choose to make dominant can vary enormously. Where individuals choose to devote their time and energy may be at odds with others. As each person or community works to achieve their aims, their endeavors may hinder the efforts of another. For example, in its purity, our natural love's desire to treat others the way we would like to be treated may appear impractical. As our commitment to earth plane values becomes dominant, our soul's desires may be pushed to the periphery of our consciousness, perhaps beyond.

When a dear friend caused me unnecessary pain, my first instinct was to build a barrier that would protect me from further onslaughts. As I did this, the compassion I once felt faded. Sometimes it didn't seem to exist at all and I discovered that my natural love was not self-sustaining. It could change, apparently deteriorate and become inactive. I had been so successful at building a protective barrier that my love for my former friend was no longer a part of my consciousness. No more did I think positive thoughts or have positive feelings toward the one who had caused me suffering. There was a time when I sought his company and valuable advice. But no more. Recalling what Ann Rollins had written earlier through James Padgett, I remember thinking that the one who had become my antagonist was in need of forgiveness.

As I gave this some thought, I realized that despite the unnecessary pain my acquaintance initiated, if the self-sustaining Divine Love was dominant in my soul, the love for the perpetrator wouldn't have deteriorated or ceased, but would have remained a part of my consciousness. With the self-existing Essence of God's Love in my soul I would have been able to recognize, as Lincoln wrote in the above reference, the perfect man that still existed in the perpetrator of my pain, under the foreign attachments.

But without the Divine Love my natural love was dominant, a love that isn't self-sustaining and is subject to the winds of change. Despite this, I still could have chosen to treat him the way I would have liked him to treat me. But I didn't. As I tried to make him pay for his actions, I no longer saw him as a confidant, someone I could trust. My once cordial relationship was no longer pure and undefiled. A feeling of compassion and kindness toward him was no longer a part of my consciousness.

As I started down this dark, murky trail, I am not sure exactly when, but to my surprise I came to understand that not only did my perpetrator need to experience forgiveness, but so did I. I too needed to experience forgiveness? What is this? Later I realized it was the pain I had experienced as my love seemed to vanish causing my positive feelings for my former

companion to fade and seemingly die. The decline of my positive feelings gave meaning to the painful memories I harbored. During a period of expiation, I experienced feelings and thoughts of regret and remorse as the burning memories of my conscience became vivid. My conscience was like a mirror. It showed exactly who and what I was. I could see what I had been and what I could have been. It was perceiving the difference between what I was and what I could have been that was excruciating.



Photo: Ron Shoemaker

At some point the troubling memories began to slowly fade and I was able to reorient myself and remember the better, happier times. It was then that I was able to reactivate positive feelings that had become stagnant. As I once again became conscious of my love, the feelings of compassion and forgiveness slowly replaced the burning, stinging memories. As the bad memories dissipated and finally disappeared, I was able to treat my friend as I would want him to treat me.

I learned that forgiveness and freedom are two sides of the same coin. It is in forgiveness, that the protective barriers I built would come down and that I could become free from the burning memories of my conscience. Without forgiveness there can be no freedom – the freedom to treat others the

way you would like to be treated.

To paraphrase, Ann Rollins and Abraham Lincoln, a person of and by themselves has no way of escaping the burning memories of conscience except by their own expiation which removes the causes of these memories. Going back to the time when the Great Soul created the human soul and its natural love, one might posit that humankind was created in a state of forgiveness and freedom ... the original and natural condition of each soul and its love.

SOWING THE SEEDS OF LOVE AND TRUTH (RUTH DUVAL)

While Christmas is behind us, these ideas can provide inspiration for any time of year.

I'd like to offer some soulful consideration for the many opportunities to share the most important gift of all this holiday season – or any time of the year for that matter.

As you are out and about each day, notice the homeless, hopeless and lonely souls in great need of a hug or at least a nod of recognition that they exist and are among "God's children". Many or most of these precious souls have no Christmas tree with gifts for them, no home or family, or anyone to care for them. Take a moment to consider this when you see them and say a little prayer for God to bless them. Then be the blessing.

I had an idea. Providing needed clothes and shoes for one such man, with the help of some from our community, made me realize that there are so many more like him. My daughter paid me back money she owed me and I divided it up into \$5 bills. I bought a big bag of warm socks and a box of blank holiday cards, with which I wished them a warm and Happy Holiday and I also told them how much God loved them and how they can receive His Great Gift of Love, the most precious gift there is.

I put a five-dollar bill into each gift, and wrote in my own words an additional letter, sharing my own story of how I first heard of Divine Love in a vision while praying in my office to be loved.

I inserted it inside the card. I also put some fruit or Christmas cookies in the presents.

With several packages, I drove around the neighborhood looking for people to give the gifts to. I kept a pen handy to quickly write the person's name on the envelope so that it would make it more personal for them. I found that just making the effort to ask their name means so much to them, that they matter!

I now have a "Santa" bag in the car when I leave the house. Just think of all the wonderful opportunities to sow the seeds of love and truth! And it doesn't even have to be Christmas!

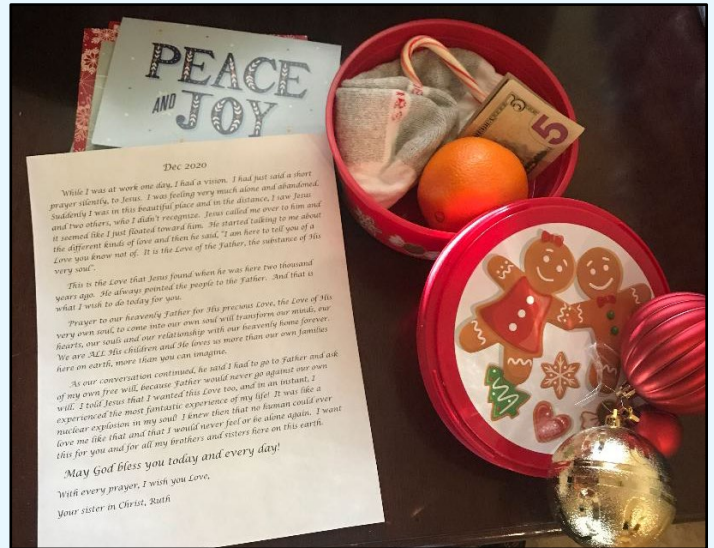


Photo: Ruth Duvall

SOCRATES' TRIPLE FILTER TEST

In ancient Greece, (469 - 399 BC), Socrates was reputed to hold knowledge in high esteem. One day an acquaintance met the great philosopher and said, "Do you know what I just heard about your friend?"

"Hold on a minute," Socrates replied. "Before telling me anything, I'd like you to pass a little test. It's called the Triple Filter Test."

"Triple filter?"

"That's right," Socrates continued. "Before you talk to me about my friend, it might be a good idea to take a moment and filter what you're going to say. That's why I call it the triple filter test."

"The first filter is TRUTH. Have you made absolutely sure that what you are about to tell me is true?"

"No," the man said, "actually I just heard about it and..."

"All right," said Socrates. "So you don't really know if it's true or not. Now let's try the second filter, the filter of GOODNESS. Is what you are about to tell me about my friend something good?"

"No, on the contrary..."

"So," Socrates continued, "you want to tell me something bad about him, but you're not certain it's true. You may still pass the test though, because there's one filter left: the filter of USEFULNESS. Is what you want to tell me about my friend going to be useful to me?"

"No, not really."

"Well," concluded Socrates, "if what you want to tell me is neither true nor good nor even useful, why tell it to me at all?"

This is why Socrates was a great philosopher and held in such high esteem. We should all use this triple filter each time we hear loose talk about any of our friends, family and other associates. (<https://inspire21.com/stories-friendshipstories-socratestriplefiltertest/>)



Alcibiades being taught by Socrates, by François-André Vincent, Public Domain

CHILDREN’S SANCTUARY NAMIBIA SOCIETY 2020 ANNUAL REPORT (TERRY ADLER)



*Soup kitchen volunteers serving a meal to children.
Photo by Theresa Matengu*

The CSNS Board is thrilled with the great progress you and our other donors have helped us achieve this past year! In 2020, with your help, and the generosity of an anonymous donor who matched donations received up to \$10,000, we sent \$34,000 (Canadian dollars) to our sister charity, Children’s Sanctuary Namibia (CSN).

With it, CSN has nearly completed the construction of the Mother House, a future home for 18 orphaned and vulnerable children (OVC). During the past year, separate showers, sinks and toilets for boys and girls were added to the building. Sewage tanks and laundry facilities were also installed. All of these were made possible by the drilling of a well and the installation of two water tanks plus the frames to support them. We are so grateful that water was found on the Sanctuary property, since a reliable water source for the Mother House and its garden is a vital necessity that sustains all other initiatives.

Electricity installation and completion of the ceilings is underway with \$10,000 CAD already raised for this purpose. A fence around the entire perimeter of the 4.5-hectare property was completed. With the water found, the gardens were expanded to include indigenous species, ornamentals, and a wide variety of fruits and vegetables, paving the way for future self-sustainability.

Funds raised in 2020 paid the salaries of three fulltime staff – a security guard, a gardener/handyman and a gardener’s assistant. These funds also provided food and salaries for part-time workers erecting the building, as well as wages for two housekeepers – Chief Ita and her assistant Victoria – who supervise nine soup kitchen volunteers and oversee the wellbeing of the children served.

Most importantly, our donations kept the food programs going. Forty-four kindergarten children received two meals a day, five days a week. In addition to this, the soup kitchen meals were provided three times a week and served an average of 112 orphaned and vulnerable children at each meal, and sometimes many more due to hardships related to COVID-19.

These are all wonderful steps towards achieving our vision, which is to create a true sanctuary for orphaned and vulnerable children where their needs for belonging, nurturing, learning and love can all be met.

For more information and pictures, or to make a donation, please visit the [Children’s Sanctuary Namibia Society](#) website. Thank you for your prayerful and financial support!

POETRY CORNER (DARLENE GAUNT)

God's Portal of Light



Supplied by Darlene Gaunt; Internet source unknown

Your works full of wonder, purpose, delight
Respond to our soulful yearnings for Light

This powerful beam coming down from above
From Heaven to Earth
Blessing all with Your Love

Divine Love, Divine Light
Comes directly from You

Your Great Soul, so loving
So bright and so true

Sphere upon sphere
Coming down through the portal
Your Angels descend to help the dear mortal
Their brethren, their friend
Transcend into Light
Their brother, their sister
In the dark night

UPCOMING EVENTS

Divine Love Ministry is entertaining the idea of a mid-August mini-retreat on the island of Kauai in Hawaii pending the COVID-19 situation. Kauai is a beautiful and healing place that has an energy about it that is conducive to being in a prayerful state all the time. If you have interest, please contact [Carolyn](#) or [Michael](#).

MEMBER / COMMUNITY NEWS

Michael Nedbal and **Eva Peck** gave a Zoom presentation sponsored by the DLSF on the work of the FCDT and their own spiritual journeys. Both presentations can be viewed [here](#).

PRAYING AND SHARING ACROSS THE MILES

DLSF / FCDT Circles of Light and Other Opportunities for Prayer, Sharing and Learning

- See the [DLSF website](#) for Circles of Light with times and contact information for the hosts. For special Winter events and programs, [click here](#). If you would like to receive weekly information about new and upcoming programs and online

prayer circles, please [sign up for the weekly calendar](#) which is sent out every Friday via Mailchimp. For any questions, please contact [Jeanne](#).

Other Groups and Circles

- [Jan Blackston](#) coordinates a *prayer/study group* on Thursdays from 7:30 to 8:30 pm Eastern US time on Zoom. If interested, please contact [Jan](#).
- [Gregory Boster](#) is offering “Celestial Healing Qigong & Divine Love Meditation” on Thursdays and Sundays 7:30 - 8:30 pm Eastern US Time, on Zoom. This meditation incorporates both moving and stillness. The movement cultivates the flow of Life Force through the body and the non-moving allows going deeper into soul awakening and connection with the Divine. If you would like to participate and experience whole healing and the integration and transformation of the soul, please contact Greg@LoveLightPower.com for the Zoom link. For more information, go to LoveLightPower.com.

New 2021 Circles of Light

- [Gerhard Lausch \(Austria\)](#) and [Klaus Fuchs \(Germany\)](#) hold a daily Divine Love Prayer Circle, called “Gemeinsam um die Göttliche Liebe beten”, or “Praying Together for Divine Love”. The time is 7:00 to 7:30 pm central European time. Everyone is invited to join in spirit (no Zoom). For more information, please contact [Klaus](#) or visit his [website](#).
- French Circle of Light, hosted by [Raphael Legros](#), meets on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of every month at 5 pm Paris Time, 8 am Pacific Time (in French). For more information, please contact [Raphael](#).
- One Nation Circles of Light, hosted by [Elizabeth Mack](#) and [Kevin O’Neill](#) are held at times convenient to those living in Europe and Africa, but all are welcome to join. The group meets on Monday, 2 pm Eastern US Time and Thursday, 5:30 pm Eastern US Time. For more information, contact [Elizabeth](#) or [Kevin](#).
- Divine Love Prayer Circle - Namibia in German (Gebetskreis der Göttlichen Liebe - Namibia), hosted by [Helge Mercker](#). meets on Tuesday, 7 pm Namibian time. For more information please visit: [Gebetskreise und das Netzwerk des Lichtes](#) or email [Helge](#).

DIVINE LOVE RESOURCES

FCDT Books

- The FCDT has several cases of books – *Angelic Revelations, Vol 2, New Testament Revelations of Jesus of Nazareth*, and *What Happens After You Die* – that are free to ministers and followers for distribution. If interested, please contact [Holly](#).
- *Divine Love Ministers Handbook* is available to purchase from [Lulu](#). Its main purpose is to assist those who conduct weddings, child blessings, church services, etc. [Rev. Jimbeau Walsh](#) is also offering a ring-binder deluxe version.

FCNB Image Archive

The FCNB can provide a 64GB flash drive to anyone interested in helping to preserve the scanned images (22,000+ pages) of ALL the known-to-exist messages (autographs, handwritten manuscripts, and typed transcripts) that came through Mr. James Padgett and Dr. Daniel Samuels. If interested, please [email us](#). We suggest a donation of \$25 to cover related costs.

Padgett Messages in Other Languages

We now have extensive translations of the Padgett messages into French (Christian Blandin’s [website](#) and [Amazon](#)); German ([Klaus Fuchs’ website](#), [Markus Jäckle’s website](#), [Helge Mercker’s YouTube](#) channel, and [Amazon](#)); and Spanish (Geraldine Cousins’ translation of TGRABJ, Vol. 1 on [Amazon](#).) *Angelic Revelations of Divine Truth* as well as some contemporary messages in varying degrees of completion have been discovered in [Spanish](#), [Norwegian](#) and [Portuguese](#).

Contemporary Messages

Published contemporary messages from all known Divine Love mediums can be accessed from [this page](#). If you are a medium with a public access to your messages, are not included, but would like to be, or if you wish to be listed differently or not at all, please contact us.

What is Divine Love?

"This Love has no counterpart in all creation, and comes from the Father alone."

-Jesus of Nazareth

Divine Love is not simply the love of God for man. Nor is it human love purified by God in some way so as to be called divine. Divine Love is not an amorphous concept or idea or feeling. No, the Divine Love is "very different in its substance and qualities from all other loves." (True Gospel revealed Anew by Jesus, Vol. I, p. 35)

The Divine Love is, in fact, "THE GREATEST THING IN ALL GOD'S UNIVERSE AND NOT ONLY THE GREATEST, BUT THE SUM OF ALL THINGS, FOR FROM IT FLOWS EVERY OTHER THING THAT BRINGS PEACE AND HAPPINESS." (Vol. I, p. 36)

Jesus teaches: "... THE DIVINE LOVE IS THAT LOVE WHICH BELONGS TO OR IS A PART OF GOD, POSSESSING HIS NATURE AND COMPOSED OF HIS SUBSTANCE, AND WHICH WHEN POSSESSED BY MAN TO A SUFFICIENT DEGREE, MAKES HIM DIVINE AND OF THE NATURE OF GOD. (Vol. I, p. 21)

He explains: "God is Soul, and only Soul, which has in it all the attributes of love and wisdom and thought for the welfare of His creatures. He is a thinking and seeing God, and all the energies of His Soul are used to make men better and happier. As is the natural father of the man a personal father, so is the Great Soul of God, a Personal Father to all his children; and men when they have the development of their souls in the Divine Love will know that God is personal—something more than an all-enveloping energy or force or mere manifestation of His existence." (Vol. II, pp. 195-196)

"ONLY THE FATHER IS IMMORTAL, AND ONLY THOSE TO WHOM HE GIVES HIS ATTRIBUTES OF IMMORTALITY CAN BECOME IMMORTAL AS HE IS. LOVE IS THE GREAT PRINCIPLE OF IMMORTALITY, AND BY THIS I MEAN THE DIVINE LOVE OF THE FATHER AND NOT THE NATURAL LOVE OF THE CREATURE; AND HE WHO POSSESSES THIS DIVINE LOVE BECOMES AS IT WERE, A PART OF IT, OR IT MAKES HIM LIKE UNTO THE FATHER." (Vol. I, p. 56)

"All men are the children of God, and His Love and care are over all, and they are very dear to Him, otherwise He would not have bestowed His Love upon them and given them the privilege of becoming inhabitants of His Celestial Kingdom." (Vol. I, p. 30)

"The Love of God is reaching out for every man, so that the meanest will be the object of His Care." (Vol. II, p. 4)

"NOW, IT HAD BETTER BE UNDERSTOOD WHAT THIS DIVINE LOVE WAS AND IS, FOR IT IS THE SAME TODAY THAT IT WAS WHEN MAN WAS CREATED IN THE IMAGE OF GOD. THIS LOVE DIFFERS FROM THE NATURAL LOVE OF MAN, WITH WHICH HE WAS ENDOWED WHEN CREATED AND WHICH BELONGS TO ALL MEN AND WHICH THEY ALL POSSESS IN A MORE OR LESS PERFECT CONDITION, IN THIS, THAT THE DIVINE LOVE IS THAT LOVE WHICH BELONGS TO OR IS A PART OF GOD, POSSESSING HIS NATURE AND COMPOSED OF HIS SUBSTANCE, AND WHICH WHEN POSSESSED BY MAN TO A SUFFICIENT DEGREE, MAKES HIM DIVINE AND OF THE NATURE OF GOD. THIS GREAT LOVE GOD INTENDED SHOULD BE RECEIVED AND POSSESSED BY ALL MEN WHO SHOULD DESIRE TO RECEIVE IT AND WHO WOULD MAKE THE EFFORT TO OBTAIN IT." (Vol. I, p. 21)

Reference: [Foundation Church of New Birth](#)



Sermon on the Mount by Carl Bloch (1877), Public Domain