

Zoe!
Part 14: From the Beginning to the End, He is Love!
Slide Notations

We've been looking at the life of God, as He has offered it to us... Nothing more obvious about God than His love for us! It's what the whole Christmas visitation is all about!

"That at precisely the right time, God sent His Son, born of a woman, put under the law to redeem them that were under the law..." **G4.4,5**

"That the world thru Him might be saved **J3.17**... for none were righteous, not even one... all had fallen short of the glory of God..." **R3.10,23**

And God *so loved* the world that He gave His only (monogenes) Son that whosoever would believe in Him would not perish but have everlasting life! **J3.16**

Being justified by His blood we have been saved from wrath... and saved by His death we are now saved by His zoe! **R3.10**

"Death reigned on earth by Adam's sin *but now we reign in life by God's favor and gift of righteousness by Jesus Christ!*" **R3.17**

Our God and Father is all about Love! And He invites us into His life – as a *share-holder*!

The Divine Nature of Love! Love is of God, God is love, the manifestation of God's love is found in His giving, and we who are in Him manifest love and giving... **1J4.7-16** Like God doesn't have light, but is light... As God doesn't just have life, but is Life... God doesn't just have love, He is love! His nature, not merely an attribute! *But love is not God! Too many want to make loving "supreme" but they exclude the supremacy of God!*

The Divine Nature of Love! God loves and He gives! He extends basic life foundations to good and evil men! (sun, rain, time, seasons). He extends His hand of salvation to every human being! He gives second, third & three hundredth opportunities to the repentant! He gives liberally and rewards with discernment: "willing and obedient eat of the fat of the land!" **Is1.19**

The Divine Nature of Love! His love takes on the form of goodness and severity! **R11.22** He is one degree softer, softened; one degree harder, hardened! To the repentant, the Restorer! To the unrepentant, the Unyielding! He is neither pacifist nor blood monger! He is perfectly balanced in His role as Lover of Men and Captain of Hosts! And sometimes He is both at once!

A misunderstanding of His loving nature has led to the impression of goofy, gooey, grace... Some people think His NT persona is a reformed version of the OT, like it was a bad part that broke off at the Cross... But He is the God who never changes! *Our approach* was changed by His satisfaction with the blood of Christ... But God, who is holy, still passionately hates sin in us and will move against it with speed and force! Because His love is perfectly balanced by the image of His dear Son... coming to clarity in us!

Divine Nature in us! We give the good news of God's love to every one in our world! **E5.1,2 1J4.13** We give love w/o discrimination! **Col2.9** We forgive, an act of love, 490x a day to people who ask forgiveness! **Mt6.1** We give our love with balance!

Ooey gooey to our babies! Correction/instruction to our kids! Observational judgment to our peers!
Accountability for our elders!

We love Him, because He first loved us (1J4.19)... and we love others like He loves... And we must enter into this New Year with balanced love! And balanced love means knowing and having the right expression of His love for every situation!