

Story

All of us here have fallen in love at some point in our lives, or perhaps we are in love with someone right now, it is quite common, it is quite beautiful too, it is also one of the stages in which we do silly things, but just as the love came, it can also go quite quickly, that happens, it is that passion that may last days, maybe weeks, but no more than that, then there are others that can last a lifetime, those who even when they turn 80 continue to love each other like when they were 16, and the question is what is the difference between those people who fall in love for a lifetime and the others who don't, and why God wants us to fall in love with Him, and more than that, because he wants us to love him , not with a feeling, but a decision, and that no matter how much time passes, we continue with that same love with which we once loved him, like those couples who when they turn 80 continue to love each other passionately.

Context

God is speaking to the people of Israel moments before marching to the promised land, these are the last words of Moses, after God explains to Israel the consequences of following and obeying him, and the consequences of departing from his path, God explains what will happen when they return to Him with all their hearts

4 Even if you have been banished to the most distant land under the heavens, from there the Lord your God will gather you and bring you back.5 He will bring you to the land that belonged to your ancestors, and you will take possession of it. He will make you more prosperous and numerous than your ancestors. 6 The Lord your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your descendants, so that you may love him with all your heart and with all your soul, and live.

Deuteronomy 30:4-6 (NIV)

Context

God is speaking to the church in Ephesus, showing that He knows their good deeds, but He also rebukes them for one thing

2 I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not and have found them false. 3 You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary.

4 Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. 5 Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. 6 But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

7 Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

Revelation 2:2-7 (NIV)

Title: Walk in love with Jesus

Story

David was the first person to say to God that he loves Him, and David is the only person in the bible that God promise to him and his decedents everlasting mercies, but David also knew that he couldn't love God due to his heart, that's why he asked God to give him a new Heart

Explain the passage

When we read Deuteronomy we see that God is talking about bringing Israel back from wherever He has sent them because of their disobedience, later in the bible we see it, God sends them to Babylon for 70 years, and then brings them back from their captivity, but something about this passage strikes me, when we read it carefully it seems that God's highest priority is not the fact that they return to their land, but it is that He has other plans, more important plans, More than being a restoration plan, it seems like a Conquest plan, a plan to conquer their heart, a plan so that the people of Israel love him with all his heart, but God also knows that the people of Israel cannot do that by

themselves alone because his heart is full of sin, and in one part of His plan we can see that He wants to circumcise the hearts of God's people (remove the sinful part) so that they can then love God completely, in the following passage (revelation 2) we can see that Christ talks about the church in Ephesus, and when we read their good things we can see that they seem like the perfect church, they have good works, patience, good doctrine, discipline, hatred towards evil, but there is something that does not add up, and Christ warns them, they have lost their first love, but why does God focus so much on that first love, they have all the qualities to be the perfect church, right?

Passage Tension

Why does God focus so much on us loving Him even when it may seem that we are the perfect church?

Key Point

You can't sacrifice yourself for someone you don't love

Key Point tension

Why would I want to sacrifice myself for god?

Remate

The Christian life has challenges that only a person in love with Christ can face and remain faithful to Him

Filipenses 3: 4-9

Let's take into account the life of Saul, also known as Paul, he had a lot of money, he was one of the most intelligent people, a Hebrew of Hebrews, he was also a Roman citizen, a Pharisee, He had the best life, but after meeting Christ all those things that were once important lost their value, for the love of Christ, he had to sacrifice many things, including his own life, but he says everything is worth it for the love of Christ, he estimates all of that as Lost just to win Christ, when we love Christ the sacrifices are no longer sacrifices because we have our eyes focused not on what we "lose" but what we gain, honor the One who loved us first and gave His life for us, make the One who gave

us an opportunity proud when no one else did, obeying is much easier when you love the One you are obeying, but most importantly, true worship can only come from a heart in love with Christ, the only way to worship in the midst of the storm and rise It is when we love Christ so much that we cannot live without Him, that what we once considered important loses its value, because the reality is that it never had value, the only thing that has eternal value is to live for Christ, to love of Him, it is not possible to be the perfect church without love for Christ, without that first love, how sad it is to see a bride walking towards the groom about to get married but she had lost that first love, she does not love him anymore, she gets distracted with the temporary and lose sight of the eternal, you can never give everything to someone you do not love, without love our actions are empty, without love we lose the main point quite easily, and that is what is happening today, the church has lost its first love for God, we get used to a routine and not a relationship, but love does not disappear, it is not that one day the church woke up and stopped loving God, it is a decision that we sometimes voluntarily or involuntarily make, we get used to the routine and we forget that it was never about a routine but about a relationship, the love that God wants from us is not that we feel butterflies when we read his word, He wants true love, not the feeling but the decision, not the situational love but the decision of love Him, the one that says bless me or don't bless me I won't move from your presence, the one that says a desert with you is better than a Paradise without you, that love that even if everything goes wrong continues to adore God, it seems that God asks a lot , but don't worry, He knows our limitations, so how can we love God in such a way? How can we live a life in love with Him, not with feelings but with decision?

Application

1 Spend time with Him

The Lord confides in those who fear him;
he makes his covenant known to them.
Psalms 25:14 (NIV)

This seems quite obvious but it is a fundamental truth, the only way to fall in love with someone is to meet him, God reveals his pact to his intimates, anyone can be an intimate of Jehovah, He has no favorites, but you have to decide to be an intimate with Him, these are not just words, these are actions, spending time with Him, dedicating time to talk and get to know Him, and little by little through prayer He will reveal who He is, He will stop being the God of your parents and He will become your God, your

faithful friend, your perfect father, but the only way to fall in love with Him is by knowing Him.

Those of you who are in a relationship at this time, think about what you love most about the other person, their sense of humor, how kind they are to other people, how they worship God, etc., those are things that are not discovered at first sight, but through time, you get to know them, and the more you know the other person, the more you fall in love, the same with Jesus, the more you know Jesus, the more you fall in love with Him

2 Study God's Word

The Lord your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your descendants, so that you may love him with all your heart and with all your soul, and live

Deuteronomy 30:6 (NIV)

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Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)

we are sinners, although we would like to love God and serve Him and not to sin anymore we cannot unfortunately, the apostle Paul said so, cursed is he who tries to do good but does the evil that he does not want, God knows that by ourselves we cannot, sin in our heart it does not let us love God, but the issue is that we are not alone, He helps us, He says that He will circumcise our heart, IN ORDER FOR US TO LIVE, He will not leave us, He knows that it is impossible in our strength but with His strength we can, He helps us take that extra step that we cannot, but the way God circumcises our hearts is through the study of his word, because the Word of God is sharper than a double-edged sword, it is a Mirror that shows us our sin, not to bring accusation but to bring Restoration, to change us and bring us to true repentance, and through the study of the Word of God little by little He circumcises our hearts and removes the sin in us so that each day we can love Him more and more

3 Faith = Act and fight each day – each moment

The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.

**²“I will make you into a great nation,
and I will bless you;**

**I will make your name great,
and you will be a blessing.^[a]**

Genesis 12:1-2 (NIV)

Just as love in words without deeds is dead, faith is not just believing with words but showing it with your actions, it is to continue fighting even when the circumstances are not ideal, to follow the voice of God that tells you to leave your home and go to a place you don't know, it may seem crazy, but remember that faith is not about knowing where you are going, but about knowing who you are going with, you have to fight every day, as my mom loves to say a day without prayer is a lost day, a day that you do not pray is a day that you are not fighting, it is a day that you lost, believe, fight every day and every moment, do not run away, run to the arms of your father , that He will always have them open for you, and those tests and difficult moments help us to believe even more, to increase our faith and make us more intimate with God, they make us fall more in love with Him.

One of the clearest examples of this is that person who wants God to bless him with a job, but is not looking for it, we do what is possible and God does the impossible.

4 Being a Jesus disciple means denying oneself

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

Matthew 16:24 (NIV)

In order to love Jesus we need to recognize our sin, and deny ourselves, loving him is part of recognizing that His will is better than ours, loving Jesus requires sacrifices, but if we really want to be his disciples we have to love Him with all our hearts to become the

young people God wants us to be, we must deny ourselves and carry our cross with Him.

Hope

Falling in love with Jesus is the best thing that will happen to you in life, it is a process, it is not overnight, it takes time, but it is worthy, the more you spend time getting to know Him, the more you will fall in love with Him, and remember, the more in love you are with Him, the easier it will be for God to use you, so that at the end we can be those young people that God wants us to be, and we can get where He wants us to get, and be able to live and say as Paul said:

But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ

Philippians 3:7-8 (NIV)

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

Philippians 1:21 (NIV)