Ps 116:1 I love the LORD, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications.

2 Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon him as long as I live.

3 The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow.

4 Then called I upon the name of the LORD; O LORD, I beseech thee, deliver my soul.

5 Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; yea, our God is merciful.

6 The LORD preserveth the simple: I was brought low, and he helped me.

7 Return unto thy rest, O my soul; for the LORD hath dealt bountifully with thee.

8 For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling.

9 I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

10 I believed, therefore have I spoken: I was greatly afflicted:

11 I said in my haste, All men are liars.

12 What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me?

13 I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD.

14 I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people.

15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.

16 O LORD, truly I am thy servant; I am thy servant, and the son of thine handmaid: thou hast loosed my bonds.

17 I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD.

18 I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people,

19 In the courts of the LORD'S house, in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem. Praise ye the LORD.

TRUE LOVE

“I love the LORD, because”

There is a cause for your love that is far greater than you.

Psalm 116:1 I love the LORD, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications.

John 16:27 For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God. 1John 4:19 We love him, because he first loved us.

LOVE---“I love the LORD”----Love is inspired by God

I love the LORD,

because he hath heard my voice and my supplications.

2 Because he hath inclined his ear unto me,

therefore will I call upon him as long as I live.

3 The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow.

4 Then called I upon the name of the LORD; O LORD, I beseech thee, deliver my soul.

1. Love is required under the law,

De 6:5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. De 10:12 ¶ And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul,

1. Obedience to His commands under love is required.

Ne 1:5 ¶ And said, I beseech thee, O LORD God of heaven, the great and terrible God, that keepeth covenant and mercy for them that love him and observe his commandments: Mic 6:8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God? Mt 22:37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. Mr 12:30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. Lu 10:27 And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.

John 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments. 21 He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. 23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

Joh 16:27 For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God.

John 15:10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. 12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. 17 These things I command you, that ye love one another.

1John 3:11 For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

1. God’s Love is only produced in the heart; by the grace of God, based upon Godly principles.
2. It is a great thing to have love from the Lord
3. The greatest of all graces and the surest of all evidences of salvation is love.
4. Love is the fruit of the Spirit
5. Love is the greatest of gifts

1John 4:12 No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

Loving one another proves that God's Spirit is within us.

1.  God is not known fully by sight 1 John 4:12 No person has ever seen God face to face, some have thought they have, some feared they did. No person has ever penetrated the spiritual world and crossed over into heaven and seen God fully. No person has ever seen God on his own.

 John 1:18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

2.  How can we know God? God is known only by love, only by His Spirit who dwells within believers. When a person believes in the love of God, that God loves us so much that He gave His Son to die for our sins, it pleases God supremely. God is perfectly pleased, for God loves His Son with a perfect love.

John 16:27 For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God. 17:23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

Col 3:14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

1Pe 1:22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

A person honors God's Son by believing in Christ, God gives His Spirit to those that hunger and thirst after righteousness. God imparts His Divine nature, through the Indwelling Holy Ghost, into the life of the believer. He does this so that His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, will have many followers, followers who will honor Christ by living and loving just as He lived and loved.

**We know God by love**. If we love God, then we accept what God has done for us in Christ. When we accept Christ and worship and obey Christ, God can now put His Spirit in us. It is that simple. We simply know God by loving and obeying Him, loving Him for all that He has done for us in Christ. And when we love Him and love His Son and obey Him and yield to Him, God fills our being with His precious Holy Ghost

Romans 5:5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

When God begins to dwell within us ([1 John 4:12](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Jn+4%3A12)). We love one another and God's love becomes perfected, that is, complete and fulfilled in us. We just grow and grow in love. We mature more and more, ever completing and perfecting the love of God upon earth.

3.  How do we know that we dwell in God and He in us ([1 John 4:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Jn+4%3A13))? By the Holy Spirit whom He has given to us. If we have the Holy Spirit dwelling within us, He bears witness with our spirit. It is impossible for God to be living within the body and life of a person and the person not know it. It is the Spirit of God who tells us that we have been saved and are in God and God in us.

1John 4:13 Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.

1. Believers must love.
2. They must *dwell in love*; they must live in love, love one another with all their hearts.
3. Loving one another is the way we can tell that we are saved.
   1. If we dwell in love, then we dwell in God and God in us.
      1. We know that we dwell in God and God in us is by our love.
         1. If we love one another, then we are demonstrating the nature of God.
         2. If we are *not loving* one another, then we are demonstrating that we *do not have* the nature of God.
4. Loving one another shows whether or not God is in us.
   1. God is love; therefore, if we have the nature of God, we are loving people—all people—just as God loves them.
   2. God is love, therefore, if we are *not loving* people, we are not operating by the nature of God. The proof that we are diligently seeking Him is that we have the nature of God and love others.

Eph 5:2 And walk 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.

(not a stench)

2Pe 1:3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

Ps 116:3 The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow

4 Then called I upon the name of the LORD; O LORD, I beseech thee, deliver my soul.

**Faith**: The spirit of faith sustains the minister. When nothing else sustains, his faith will sustain him. The minister may be tempted to give up: the trouble and pressure against him may be so great that he is tempted to leave the ministry. To never share the gospel again.

His faith will not allow him to become discouraged to such a point that he would leave the ministry and fall into the depths of despair. The minister's faith is the same great faith that the Psalmist David had (Psalm 116:10).

Ps 116:10 I believed, therefore have I spoken: I was greatly afflicted:

2Co 4:13 We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;

By faith the minister believes the promises of God: he stays in the ministry and continues to speak just as David and Paul did. The minister believes with all his heart...

•  that the presence of God will sustain him.

•  that the power of God will sustain him.

•  that the spirit of dying daily will sustain him.

Joh 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

Ps 116:13 I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD.

1. Ps 11:6 Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.
2. Ps 16:5 The LORD is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot.
3. Ps 23:5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
4. Eze 23:33 Thou shalt be filled with drunkenness and sorrow, with the cup of astonishment and desolation, with the cup of thy sister Samaria.
5. Mt 26:39 And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.
6. 1Co 10:16 The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?
7. Re 14:10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:

14 I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people. 18 I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people,

Ps 116:15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints. Ps 116:16 O LORD, truly I am thy servant; I am thy servant, and the son of thine handmaid: thou hast loosed my bonds.

Ps 116:2 Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon him as long as I live. 4 Then called I upon the name of the LORD; O LORD, I beseech thee, deliver my soul. 13 I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD.

17 I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD.

Ro 8:35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. 38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1Co 13:7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

Ro 15:1 We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

**Boundless Love**

Boundless love, unending joy.  
This is my life, it’s what I know.  
And I can’t believe that He selected me,  
Jesus, my Lord, it’s You I owe.

He keeps me when I’m weary.  
He can hear me when I pray.  
He’s even there beside me when I fall.  
His love surrounds me even when I go astray.  
I guess I’d have to say that He’s my all.

When my world falls all around me  
I call upon His name.  
Just in time He takes me by the hand.  
Whose ways are perfect just like His Son who bore my shame.  
I don’t even have to understand.

Boundless grace, because of Calvary  
His life He gave, His love outpoured.  
I now can live, with Him eternally,  
Jesus, my Lord, it’s You I owe.