



GOD'S LOVE THROUGH THE
CROSS OF CHRIST
CROSSWAY CHURCH

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God's True Love Through the Cross

CrossWay Church

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In this study, we will look at the Scriptural Truths which are centered around where the Love of God is revealed, offered, given, and experienced which is only through what God did in His Son on the Cross. Many have always distorted the true Biblical Love which God offers exclusively through Faith in the Cross of His Son. Outside of this one avenue, no matter the appearance of the actions, Love will be replaced with only a form.

Part 1

1. God's Love Is Not Defined Abstractly, but Historically and Redemptively

When we say that God's Love, God's Grace and everything else that God offers His people is not abstract, we are meaning that these things are not something that exists only as an idea, quality, or concept rather than a real, physical and touchable object. Something abstract describes things that cannot be directly touched, seen, or measured in a material sense, but are only understood by the mind.

Scripture does not define God's Love as a sentiment, disposition, or general benevolence. It defines God's Love by an act, and specifically the act of the giving up of His Son unto death, for all, on the Cross.

Scripture defines God's Love by an act

Romans 5:8

But God commendeth his Love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

God does not merely possess Love; He commends (demonstrates, proves, makes known) His Love in and through the death of Christ.

Where there is no Cross - There is no revelation of God's Divine Love

2. God's Love Is Given Only "IN CHRIST," Never Outside of Him

1 Timothy 1:14

And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and **Love which is in Christ Jesus**.

Romans 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?

Paul immediately grounds this Love in the Cross

God's Love is inseparable from the Father not sparing the Son, and everything God gives flows with Him, meaning with Christ crucified.

Romans 8:32

He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

3. God's Love Is Revealed at the Cross Because Sin Is Dealt With There

Romans 3:24-25

24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

When we sinned in the Garden, God came onto the scene to repair a perfect Loving relationship which had been breached through disobedience and sin. God brought the Truth of a Redeemer that would come and be sacrificed for us to crush the head of the devil, and to clothe us with the garments of His Righteousness which would manifest our restoration to a Loving Heavenly Father and the world.

Genesis 3:15

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and **her seed**; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

***God's Love cannot be expressed apart from
Righteousness***

Therefore, Love must come where wrath is satisfied which is exclusively in the blood. The work of Righteousness is Christ and His death.

Isaiah 32:17

And **the work of righteousness shall be peace**; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever.

Colossians 1:20

And, **having made peace through the blood of his cross**, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

Where God did the work of Righteousness, there He made our peace, which was through the shedding of His Son's Blood. This is the same place where God manifested His Love for the world to see as His Grace was seen there by all.

1 John 4:9-10

9 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.

10 Herein is Love, not that we Loved God, but that he Loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Titus 2:11

For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

The Grace of God which brought Salvation brought the opportunity for God's Love to be poured into the Believing heart.

Romans 5:5

Because the Love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

The Love that God is has been shed abroad in our hearts, because He has moved into our hearts to make us His tabernacle.

Romans 5:9

Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

The Holy Spirit sheds abroad the Love of God within the heart of man only in the context of Justification by blood.

4. God's Love Is Revealed Supremely in the Giving of His Son to Death

John 3:16

For God so Loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

The word "gave" does not refer merely to incarnation, but to sacrificial giving as we see in John's writings:

John 12:24

Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

God's Love is revealed not merely in sending His Son, but in the giving of His Son unto death.

5. God's Love Is Known Only through the Cross of Christ, Not by Natural Perception

1 Corinthians 2:9-10

9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that Love him.

10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

What are "the things" revealed by the Spirit?

1 Corinthians 1:18

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

The Spirit reveals God's Love only through the message of the Cross.

Someone may say that God's Love is revealed through other ways than the Cross of Christ, but that cannot be true, for God is Love and the manifestation of His Love, which is who He is, was manifest on Calvary's Hill in His Lamb.

6. God's Love Is Defined by Substitutionary Death

Galatians 2:20

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.

Paul does not say, “who Loved me and helped me,” or “guided me,” but Loved me and gave Himself for me.

God’s Love is inseparable from the Self-giving of Christ unto death.

7. God’s Love Is Manifested Only Where Sin Is Removed

Ephesians 2:4-5

4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great Love wherewith he Loved us,

5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

Paul’s writings to the Church in Ephesus reveal to us where this Love is offered and given.

Ephesians 1:7

In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Love operates only where Redemption through blood is accepted by Faith in the heart of man

2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all.
Amen.

8. God’s Love Is Made Known Only by the Cross, Not Apart from It

1 John 4:9–10

9 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.

10 Herein is Love, not that we Loved God, but that he Loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

John explicitly defines Love as the act of God in the Giving of His Son on Calvary's Cross. It is not emotion, nor feelings, but propitiation, which is His offered mercy through Christ.

“Herein is Love” not emotion, not intention, but propitiation.

Intention belongs to the realm of desire, resolve, or motive. One may intend to help, forgive, or save, but intention alone does nothing to deal with sin, guilt, wrath, or separation from God.

Intention is internal while Love is revealed in action

9. God's Love Cannot Be Experienced Apart from Faith in the Cross

1 John 4:16

And we have known and believed the Love that God hath to us. God is Love; and he that dwelleth in Love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

1 John 5:10-11

10 He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.

11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

Life, Love, witness as well as all of the promises of God are in the Son, and the Son is known only in His death and resurrection.

10. The Cross Is the Only Place Where God's Love and Justice Meet

Psalm 85:10

Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

This is not some sort of poetic talk, but that which was fulfilled only at Calvary, where mercy flows, Truth stands, Righteousness is satisfied and Peace is made.

Colossians 1:20

And, having **MADE** peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

The declaration of God's "making" of Peace is declared exclusively through the blood of Jesus.

As we close out this first section, let us remember that God is Love, and that His Love is revealed, given and experienced only through the Cross of His Son, The Lord Jesus Christ. There is no Biblical reality for God's Love to be FOUND apart from the Blood and the sacrificial substitutionary death of Jesus Christ. Anything called "God's Love" that is not anchored in the Cross is not the Love revealed in Scripture.

Part 2

There are many today who go around always talking of Love and telling those who preach the Cross that they are unloving. This is not a new problem, nor is it a marginal issue. It results from a central conflict between two different

definitions of Love. One is Biblical while the other stems from humanistic and fleshly psychology.

Scripture addresses this tension directly and decisively. Let's look at this scripturally.

1. The Accusation Against the Cross Is Always “Lack of Love”

Those who reject the Cross never say they reject Love. I am not referring to those who reject the Cross as a means of initial Salvation, but rather for day to day and moment by moment experience of all that God offers His people. They claim that they are the true carriers of Love, and that the message of the Cross is harsh, negative, divisive, or unloving. Many attempt to separate contending for the Faith, and Love. These are not two different experiences, but rather one and the same. The very word contend is defined as a striving in opposition. This striving for the Faith of the Gospel is very noticeable and is for the most part misunderstood in today's Church. We see this problem mentioned in the Scriptures.

1 Corinthians 1:18

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

The message of the Cross, which is the message of God's Love exposes Sin, our helplessness, death, judgment and the end of SELF. Anything that exposes these realities is immediately branded as “unloving” by the flesh. Many even say it is not what they preach, but the way they preach it, but when their favorite minister does the same, they have no problem with it. A tumbleweed will never know the Love of God outside of a theological intellectual way if their hearts do not yield to their union with Christ in His death.

2. Scripture Says the Cross Is the Highest Expression of Love

The Word of God does not leave Love undefined.

The Word of God is God and God is Love, and God's Love which is who He is was manifest on the Cross for all

John 15:13

Greater Love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

If this is the greatest Love, and the Cross is where Christ laid down His life for enemies, then this is the supreme revelation of Love. To reject the Cross is not to advance Love, but to reject its highest form. I have no doubt that I Love The Lord, but having to be honest, I also know that at times I find in my actions that I must Love myself more.

3. Love Separated From the Cross Is Love Without Truth

Ephesians 4:15

But speaking the truth in Love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

Truth and Love are inseparable in Scripture. The Cross is where the Truth about our Sin is revealed. It is where the Truth about God's Holiness is upheld and His Redemption was accomplished. If we remove the Cross, Love becomes only sentimental, non-confrontational, man centered and powerless to Save.

Proverbs 27:6

Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

The Cross wounds pride but heals the soul which is submitted to and being governed by the Truth of the Cross of

Christ. False Love soothes pride but leaves sin untouched. It is through a false love that Sin can so easily beset the Believer who has been distracted from the Cross of Christ through his own soul demanding to govern once again instead of being governed.

4. The Cross Offends Because It Ends All Boasting

Galatians 6:14

But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

The Cross eliminates Self-righteousness, moral superiority, religious achievement and man's fleshly wisdom of which none show the Love of God. Those invested in self-esteem theology must label the Cross "unloving," because it crucifies the SELF they are protecting. This again, is how, the Sin Nature easily besets us at times. We Love The Lord, but we find ourselves, while not trusting in the Cross of Christ, loving ourselves more.

5. Scripture Explicitly Warns of "Love" Without Obedience to Truth

2 Timothy 4:3

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

What replaces sound doctrine? Nothing other than SELF Love.

2 Timothy 3:2-4

2 For men shall be Lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,
4 Traitors, heady, highminded, Lovers of pleasures more than Lovers of God;

The Cross is the power of God and only the power of God delivers us from and prevents us from loving ourselves more highly than we ought. (Romans 12:3, 1 Corinthians 1:18).

1 Corinthians 1:18

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

Romans 12:3

For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

6. Those Who Preach the Cross Are Accused of Being “Unloving” Because the message of the Cross Judges the Flesh

John 3:19

And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

The Cross of Christ is the Light of the Scriptures which exposes those who call the preaching of the Cross unloving. When this takes place the manifestation of the leaven attempting to leaven the entire lump is exposed. Light exposes and expels darkness if the Cross of Christ is accepted by Faith.

The Cross of Christ is The Light of The Scriptures

7. Scripture Commands Love, but Defines It by the Cross

1 John 3:16

Hereby perceive we the Love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

This is not an optional definition as it is authoritative. Anyone redefining Love apart from the laying down of Christ's life is operating outside the framework of biblical Truth no matter how sincere or religious they appear.

8. The Charge “Unloving” Is the Final Defense of the Flesh

When Scripture is rejected, the Truth is being resisted because we are opposing ourselves even though we are all about ourselves. It is an amazing thing to finally see that when we are all about ourselves, we are actually resisting ourselves. This is a result of God promising that He will not be mocked but rather that a man will reap whatsoever he sows to.

2 Timothy 2:25

In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth.

Galatians 6:7

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

When we avoid the Truth of God's Word concerning His Love, and we are exposed by the Truth of God's Word, Conviction is uncomfortable, thus the accusation is always, “You are unloving.” Stephen faced it. Paul faced it. Christ Himself faced it and told us that we would face it as well.

Matthew 23:37

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!

9. The Message of the Cross Is Not Unloving but Is the Only Place Love Was Proven

Romans 5:8

But God commendeth his Love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

If the object of our yielded heart is moved from the Cross of Christ to anything else, Love is no longer the object of our Faith because Faith works only by the Love of Christ who gave Himself for us or it is not Bible Faith.

Galatians 5:6

For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by Love.

Galatians 2:20

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.

Let us remember that to preach Love without the Cross is to preach a Love that cannot save nor can it be shed abroad in one's heart. To preach the Cross is to preach Love in its fullest, truest, and most costly form. Calling the message of the Cross "unloving" is not a defense of Love, it is a rejection of God's definition and only avenue of His offered Love. The real issue is not tone, style, or compassion. The real issue is, will Love be defined by human sentiment, or by the blood of the Son of God?

Part 3

Let us now examine how “Love” becomes a weapon against truth and show how false love leads to leanness of soul and trace how every Biblical rebuke was motivated by Cross-defined Love.

Let’s look at this in three structured movements, because Scripture itself does so.

How “Love” becomes a weapon against truth

How false love produces leanness of soul

How every Biblical rebuke flows from Cross-defined Love

This is not a theory or man’s opinion, but rather Bible based Truth concerning this issue.

I. HOW “Love” BECOMES A WEAPON AGAINST TRUTH

1. Love Is Weaponized When It Is Detached from Righteousness

Scripture never presents Love as autonomous, but is always governed by Truth and Righteousness.

Psalm 85:10

Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

1 John 3:10

In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: **whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that Loveth not his brother.**

When Love is isolated from Truth, it becomes a tool to silence Truth, not fulfill it.

This is exactly what Paul warned about:

2 Timothy 4:3-4

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

Notice: Truth is not rejected openly, as it is rejected under the banner of preference, tone, and “Love.”

2. Love Becomes a Weapon When Truth Is Labeled “Harmful”

The modern accusation is not, “That is false” or “That is unscriptural”, but rather, “That is unloving”, “That hurts people” and “That causes division.” Scripture anticipated this tactic of Satan.

Isaiah 30:10

Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophecy deceits:

“Smooth things” are always framed as loving, but God calls them deception.

3. The Cross Is Targeted Because It Is the Ultimate Truth

The Cross does what no other message does. It declares that man is dead in sin. It is the only message which allows God to remove all SELF-contribution, and always exposes religious flesh. It is God’s only message through which He establishes His Righteousness.

2 Corinthians 5:21

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

1 Corinthians 1:23

But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;

Always remember this vital Truth. All of God's Words are IN Righteousness and His Righteousness is only revealed IN the Gospel.

Proverbs 8:8

All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them.

Romans 1:16-17

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

And do not forget that this avenue of Righteousness which is Who and What Jesus Christ did for us on the Cross is God's only avenue of offering us this like precious Faith which works by Love.

2 Peter 1:1

Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have **obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God** and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

Calling the Cross "unloving" is the final rhetorical defense of the flesh when it cannot refute truth.

II. HOW FALSE Love PRODUCES LEANNESS OF SOUL

1. Leanness Comes When Desire Is Granted Without Truth

Psalm 106:15

And he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul.

This verse is decisive. God gave the Israelites what they wanted, but with it He sent leanness into their soul. They were reaping exactly what they were sowing. They were lean in their trust in God and they reaped a dried up soul unto death.

Numbers 11:33

And while the flesh was yet between their teeth, ere it was chewed, the wrath of the LORD was kindled against the people, and the LORD smote the people with a very great plague.

False Love says, “If it feels loving, it must be loving”, “If people are uncomfortable, stop.”

God says, “If truth is removed, the soul withers.”

2. False Love Removes the Cross, and the Soul Starves

The soul is nourished only by being governed by the Truth of the Gospel, which is Faith in Christ and Him crucified, where Righteousness, Truth and Life are experienced and abundance and satisfaction of soul is found.

All three come only through a deliberate and conscious Faith in the Cross.

John 6:53

Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.

If we remove the Cross of Christ as the object of our hearts yield, we remove true nourishment, conviction, repentance and Life offered through the working of The Holy Spirit.

What remains is religious activity with inward famine.

3. Leanness Manifests as Spiritual Sensitivity Without Power

A lean soul often looks gentle, kind, non-confrontational, and affirming, but Scripture defines the condition of a lean soul very differently than some appearance.

2 Timothy 3:5

Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof.

The Cross of Christ is the power of God. Love without Faith in the Cross of Christ always results in powerlessness, which is spiritual leanness and darkness.

III. EVERY BIBLICAL REBUKE IS MOTIVATED BY CROSS-DEFINED LOVE

This is crucial: Rebuke is not the opposite of Love in Scripture. Rebuke is Love refusing to abandon Truth.

1. Paul's Rebuke of the Galatians

Galatians 1:6

I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel.

This is sharp language. Why?

Galatians 4:19

My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you.

Paul rebukes the Galatians because the Cross of Christ is being replaced. The Galatians were actually being told that unless they were circumcised they could not truly be Saved.

Acts 15:1

And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved.

Love compels confrontation

2. Paul's Rebuke of the Corinthians

1 Corinthians 5:1-2

1 It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife.
2 And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you.

Why was the Apostle Paul so severe with the Corinthians? Moving on through this same chapter we see why. Today's Church will avoid confrontation at all cost but only because they are not carrying the Truth of the Cross in the heart but only using theological intellect.

1 Corinthians 5:7

For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

The Cross demands Holiness. Read Numbers 25:1-9 where we will find a man standing for Truth and God's Way of Holiness when no one else seem to care. The plague was not stopped until this happened.

To ignore sin in the name of Love is to deny the sacrifice

When we make light of sin, we are making light of what God did about our sin

3. Peter's Rebuke of Ananias and Sapphira

Acts 5:3

But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?

This was not cruelty. It was protection of the Gospel reality birthed by the Cross of our Savior which a false love would have excused. True Love preserves and rejoices in the Truth.

1 Corinthians 13:6

Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

4. John's Rebuke of Those Who "Abide Not in Doctrine"

2 John 1:9

Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

This is not hatred, but guardianship of life. Love that refuses to allow the Word of the Truth of the Gospel to draw boundaries abandons souls. Love divorced from Truth becomes a silencer of Truth. Love divorced from the Cross produces leanness of soul.

The Word of the Truth of the Gospel

Colossians 1:5

For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in **the word of the truth of the gospel**;

Every Biblical, and Spirit led rebuke, is an act of Cross-

defined Love, not harshness.

The Cross settles the matter

Proverbs 3:12

For whom the LORD Loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.

Correction is not the absence of Love. Correction is Love refusing to let go of life and the avenue through which it comes. This is the good fight of Faith. Those who accuse Cross-preachers of being unloving are not defending Love, but are defending the flesh from its only rightful place of execution.

Let's now look further at how Jesus Himself rebuked more than anyone, yet was Love incarnate. This will expose how modern "Love" theology fulfills end-time warning.

Let us look at two major things in this next section.

Jesus rebuked more than anyone, yet He Himself is Love incarnate.

Modern "Love" theology precisely fulfills end-time warnings given in Scripture.

I. JESUS REBUKED MORE THAN ANYONE, YET HE HIMSELF IS Love INCARNATE

Scripture never presents Jesus as tolerant of error, indifferent to sin, or silent in the name of compassion. Instead, He rebukes precisely "because" He Loves.

1. Jesus Rebuked Religious Leaders More Than Anyone Else

No one spoke more severe words than Jesus and He did so publicly, repeatedly, and unapologetically. We see some of these instances in the below Scriptures.

Matthew 23:13

But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.

Matthew 23:27

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness.

Matthew 23:33

Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?

This is not hatred, but the Love of Christ refusing to allow deception to masquerade as Righteousness. Why such severity? We will see what Jesus is attempting to prevent in the following scripture.

Matthew 23:15

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.

False religion damns souls and the Love of God must confront it.

2. Jesus Rebuked His Own Disciples

If rebuke were unloving, Jesus would never have rebuked those closest to Him.

Matthew 16:23

But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

Why? Because Peter resisted the Cross

Matthew 16:21

From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.

Anything, even words spoken by one of Christ's disciples that opposes the Cross is confronted without hesitation.

3. Jesus Rebuked Cities, Not Just Individuals

Matthew 11:20-24

20 Then began he to upbraid the cities wherein most of his mighty works were done, because they repented not:

21 Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.

22 But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment, than for you.

23 And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day.

24 But I say unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee.

Jesus rebuked entire communities for rejecting repentance. Why?

Because Love warns before judgment

4. Jesus Rebuked with Tears, Not Indifference

Here is where modern intellectual and humanistic theology collapses.

Luke 19:41-42

41 And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it,

42 Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes.

Jesus wept while rebuking. His tears and rebuke were not opposites. This is Love incarnate, as Truth was spoken plainly. Jesus' Judgment was to warn honestly through His deeply expressed compassion as He willingly set His face toward Jerusalem and embraced His Cross.

5. The Cross Itself Is the Greatest Rebuke Ever Spoken in Manifestation

The Cross rebukes Sin, Self-righteousness, human wisdom, religious pride and any and all fleshly confidence.

Romans 5:8

But God commendeth his Love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Love does not soften Truth. Love absorbs wrath to save the sinner, which we see so beautifully IN Christ on His Cross.

II. MODERN “Love” THEOLOGY FULFILLS END-TIME WARNINGS

Scripture warned us that Love would be redefined, not abandoned.

1. Last Days Love Is Self-Centered, Not Cross-Centered

2 Timothy 3:1-2

1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2 For men shall be Lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy.

Notice: The problem is not the absence of Love, but a misdirected object of Love. This misdirected object of Love is a Self-Love which replaces self-denial. Self-approval replaces repentance as the comfort of our flesh replaces the Cross of Christ.

2. Truth Will Be Rejected Under the Guise of Love

2 Timothy 4:3

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

Why? Because sound doctrine confronts sin, exposes error and centers on the Cross of Christ. The modern Love theology says, "Doctrine divides but Love unites." But Scripture says;

Ephesians 4:13

Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

Unity comes through Truth, **not tolerance for the distractions** by those avoiding the Way of the Cross.

3. Love Without Truth Produces a Form Without Power

2 Timothy 3:5

Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

The power of godliness is the Cross

1 Corinthians 1:18

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

Modern Love theology retains religious language, words which are vague, aesthetics carrying the appearance of worship and moral sentiment, all the while removing conviction, repentance, the Blood atonement and the offense of the Cross.

This fulfills Paul's warning exactly.

4. False Love Calls Evil "Good" to Avoid Offense

Isaiah 5:20

Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

Modern Love theology calls rebuke "hate", warning, "harm", and conviction "trauma."

But those who look to and through the Cross of Christ see differently, for they see from the eye of The Lord which guides them.

Proverbs 27:6

Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

Psalm 32:8

I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: ***I will guide thee with mine eye.***

Love wounds to heal while false Love refuses to wound and therefore refuses to heal. Christ was wounded and bruised for our sins and trespasses.

Isaiah 53:5

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

5. The Greatest Deception: Calling Christlike Ministry “Unloving.”

Jesus warned us:

John 15:18

If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.

When Cross-centered preaching is called, unloving, harsh and divisive it is not spiritual discernment, but alignment with the world’s hatred of the Christ of His Cross.

Jesus rebuked more than anyone because He Loved more than anyone. The Cross is the sharpest rebuke and the offering of God’s deepest Love. The modern “Love” theology is not compassionate and fulfills the Word of God in these last days. To remove rebuke is to remove repentance and to remove repentance is to remove life.

Revelation 3:19

As many as I Love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

That is not outdated Truth as many would say today, but rather Christ speaking to His last-days Church.



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