

# THE LOVE OF THE FATHER



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*Compliments of*

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*"Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price,"* Isa. 55:1.

*"...freely ye have received, freely give,"* Mat. 10:8.

# THE LOVE OF THE FATHER

*By Jerry Healan*

The Hebrew word for father is *ab* (אב). The more ancient Hebrew utilized to produce the Scriptures was called Paleo-Hebrew, which came from an even more ancient pictorial Hebrew. Interestingly, the letters aleph (א) and beit (ב) are the first two letters of the Hebrew alphabet. In pictorial Hebrew or Paleo-Hebrew, the aleph (א) is the picture or hieroglyphic of the head of an ox (𐤀) while the beit (ב) is the picture of a tent, house, or temple (𐤁). Therefore, the father (אב) is the head, leader, chief, strength, first of the tent, house or temple.

Let's take, for instance, the original name of the Patriarch **Abram**. **Abram** means "High father." His name was later changed to **Abraham**, which means "Father of many nations," or it could also continue to carry the original meaning of "High father," which would be "High father of many nations."

The Hebrew word for love is *ahav* (אהב [masculine]) and sometimes *ahavah* (אהבה [feminine]). The ancient Hebrew letters that make up this word are interesting to contemplate. The aleph (א) is, as described above, the picture of the head of an ox. The hei (ה) carries the idea of the article "the," "behold," "lo," etc. The Pictorial Hebrew presents it thusly, 𐤅. Can't you just see someone jumping up and down and yelling "Hey!," "Behold!" etc.? The beit (ב) is the picture of a tent, house, temple, etc. Notice that the Hebrew word for love begins and ends with the letters aleph (א) and beit (ב). The hei (ה) in the middle would

give us the idea of beholding the very the heart, the interior, the midst of the Father. Therefore, what comes from the midst, the heart of the Father (𐤅𐤅) is love (𐤅𐤅𐤅).

The Apostle John wrote, “He that loveth not knoweth not Elohim; for **Elohim is love (𐤅𐤅𐤅),**” 1 Jn. 4:8. Again, he writes, “And we have known and believed the love (𐤅𐤅𐤅) that Elohim hath to us. **Elohim is love (𐤅𐤅𐤅);** and he that dwelleth in love (𐤅𐤅𐤅) dwelleth in Elohim, and Elohim in him,” 1 Jn. 4:16.

Notice that it says that he that dwells in love (𐤅𐤅𐤅), dwells in Elohim and Elohim in him. Thus, those who have the love of the Father consist of the hei (𐤅) [behold, lo, the] in the Father and the Father is in them.

Now this is quite interesting indeed, because the Hebrew letters also serve as numbers. The hei (𐤅) is the number five (5) and in the spiritual significance of numbers, five (5) is the number for grace!

## GRACE

The love of the Father is the great merciful grace that He exhibits to us through His beloved Son Yahshua the Messiah, “If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things? And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For **Elohim so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.** For Elohim sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the

world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of Elohim. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in Elohim," Jn. 3:12-21.

Through the shed blood of Yahshua the Messiah, we can have our sins blotted out, atoned for, "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with Elohim through our Sovereign Yahshua the Messiah: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of Elohim. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because **the love of Elohim is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us.** For **when we were yet without strength, in due time the Messiah died for the unrighteous.** For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But **Elohim commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, the Messiah died for us.** Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For **if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to Elohim by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.** And not only so, but we also joy in Elohim through our Sovereign Yahshua

the Messiah, by whom we have now received the atonement,” Ro. 5:1-11.

Look at the love that the Father had for us! We were great sinners! Yet, while we were in our sins, Yahweh sent His only begotten Son into the world so that through His death we might receive forgiveness of our sins, if we will repent, confess our sins, believe in His atoning grace and begin to walk in His ways, believing in the name of His Son.

Again, John writes, “Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of Elohim; and every one that loveth is born of Elohim, and knoweth Elohim. He that loveth not knoweth not Elohim; for Elohim is love. **In this was manifested the love of Elohim toward us, because that Elohim sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved Elohim, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins,**” 1 Jn. 4:7-10.

Yahweh didn’t love us because we were so wonderful and special. He didn’t love us because we exhibited love toward Him. We were His enemies. We were walking in sin, which sows the seeds of hate and destruction. But the love of the Father came directly from Him, from His bosom, His heart through His Son Yahshua the Messiah Whom He sent to be a propitiation, an atonement for our enmity, our sins so that we might be able to experience His wondrous love, grace and mercy.

## **THE GREATEST LOVE**

Yahshua said, “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends,” Jn. 15:13.

John also writes that Yahshua was in the bosom of the Father, “No man hath seen Elohim at any time; the only be-

gotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him,” 1 Jn. 1:18.

One’s bosom contains one’s heart. Yahshua proclaimed that He came down from heaven to do His Father’s will, “For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me,” Jn. 6:38.

To be in one’s bosom means to be greatly loved and cared for. Moses complained to Yahweh, “Have I conceived all this people? Have I begotten them, that thou shouldest say unto me, **Carry them in thy bosom, as a nursing father beareth the sucking child**, unto the land which thou swarest unto their fathers?” Num. 11:12.

Yahweh commanded Israel, “If thy brother, the son of thy mother, or thy son, or thy daughter, or **the wife of thy bosom**, or thy friend, which is as thine own soul, entice thee secretly, saying, Let us go and serve other gods, which thou hast not known, thou, nor thy fathers; Namely, of the gods of the people which are round about you, nigh unto thee, or far off from thee, from the one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth; Thou shalt not consent unto him, nor hearken unto him; neither shall thine eye pity him, neither shalt thou spare, neither shalt thou conceal him: But thou shalt surely kill him; thine hand shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterwards the hand of all the people. And thou shalt stone him with stones, that he die; because he hath sought to thrust thee away from Yahweh thy Elohim, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage,” Dt. 13:6-10.

Yahshua is the Father’s only begotten son. As a father myself, I can tell you that my love for my children is very intense (not that I don’t get frustrated with them from time

to time). There is a father's love and there is a mother's love. However, Yahweh's love is a much more perfect love than man can ever have or exhibit. As a father, it would be impossible for me to see one of my children suffer as Yahshua did for us. As a father, it would be impossible for me to see my children suffer for others who were my enemies, or were the most dreadful of sinners, etc. Please don't misunderstand what I am saying here. I could put myself on the chopping block for others, but to put someone else's life on the line, especially my children would be very difficult to do. But the love of the Heavenly Father and also Yahshua's love is so much greater than the love of man.

Yahshua's sacrifice is something that was planned from before the foundation of the world, "And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of **the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world,**" Rev. 13:8.

The Father loved Yahshua before the foundation of the world, "Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for **thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world,**" Jn. 17:24.

Paul writes, "And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. But Yahweh, who is rich in mercy, for his great love (אהבה) wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us to-

gether with the Messiah, (by grace [h] **ye are** saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in the Messiah Yahshua: That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through the Messiah Yahshua. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of Yahweh: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in the Messiah Yahshua unto good works, which Yahweh hath before ordained that we should walk in them,” Eph. 2:1-10.

Again, Paul writes, “For the love of the Messiah constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again,” 2 Cor. 5:14-15.

The Father and the Son Yahshua, of course, have exhibited the greatest love toward us because the Father was willing to send His most beloved Son into the world, not only to witness to the world, but to suffer and die for all of us sinners, so that we may be forgiven, receive His wondrous grace, be atoned for and inherit His wondrous kingdom and eternity. Yahshua also was willing to empty Himself of the power, esteem, honor and glory that He had, become a man, become flesh, suffer and die for each and every one of us. It is a love that surpasses the knowledge and understanding of the natural man.

## **RETURNING HIS LOVE**

Since we have been blessed to be able to receive this wondrous outpouring love and grace from the Father through Yahshua the Messiah, what are we supposed to do in exhibiting love back to Him?

Yahshua told His disciples, “As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. 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,” Jn. 15:9-10.

“And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all? And Yahshua answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; Yahweh our Elohim is one Yahweh: And thou shalt love Yahweh thy Elohim with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one Elohim; and there is none other but he: And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices. And when Yahshua saw that he answered discreetly, he said unto him, Thou art not far from the kingdom of Elohim,” Mk. 12:28-34.

Yahshua is referring to what Moses wrote in the book of Deuteronomy, “Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which Yahweh your Elohim commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it: That thou mightest fear Yahweh thy Elohim, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged. Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do

it; that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as Yahweh Elohim of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey. Hear, O Israel: Yahweh our Elohim is one Yahweh: And thou shalt love Yahweh thy Elohim with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates,” Dt. 6:1-9.

Moses elaborated further, “At that time Yahweh said unto me, Hew thee **two tables of stone** like unto the first, and come up unto me into the mount, and make thee an ark of wood. And I will write on the tables the words that were in the first tables which thou brakest, and thou shalt put them in the ark. And I made an ark of shittim wood, and hewed two tables of stone like unto the first, and went up into the mount, having the two tables in mine hand. And he wrote on the tables, according to the first writing, **the ten commandments, which Yahweh spake unto you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly: and Yahweh gave them unto me.** And I turned myself and came down from the mount, and put the tables in the ark which I had made; and there they be, as Yahweh commanded me. And the children of Israel took their journey from Beeroth of the children of Jaakan to Mosera: there Aaron died, and there he was buried; and Eleazar his son ministered in the priest's office in his stead. From thence they journeyed unto Gudgodah; and from

Gudgodah to Jotbath, a land of rivers of waters. At that time Yahweh separated the tribe of Levi, to bear the ark of the covenant of Yahweh, to stand before Yahweh to minister unto him, and to bless in his name, unto this day. Wherefore Levi hath no part nor inheritance with his brethren; Yahweh is his inheritance, according as Yahweh thy Elohim promised him. And I stayed in the mount, according to the first time, forty days and forty nights; and Yahweh hearkened unto me at that time also, and Yahweh would not destroy thee. And Yahweh said unto me, Arise, take thy journey before the people, that they may go in and possess the land, which I swear unto their fathers to give unto them. **And now, Israel, what doth Yahweh thy Elohim require of thee, but to fear Yahweh thy Elohim, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve Yahweh thy Elohim with all thy heart and with all thy soul, To keep the commandments of Yahweh, and his statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good?"** Dt. 10:1-13.

Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbour, and not suffer sin upon him. Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but **thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself**: I am Yahweh," Lev. 19:17-18.

The two tables of stone with the ten commandments are the basis, the foundation of Yahweh's law of love. They teach us how to love Yahweh and put Him first and then to love our neighbor as ourselves.

Interestingly, the longer form of the word for love is *ahavah* (אהבה). A *hei* (ה) is added to the end of the shorter word for love (אהב), which would indicate to us that we must behold (ה) love. When we add up the numerical value

for *ahavah*, we get א = 5 + ה = 2 + א = 5 + ד = 1 = 13. Yahweh gave Israel two stone tables that contained the ten commandments. The first 5 commandments would be on the first stone and the first five commandments have to do with love toward Yahweh, even though the fifth commandment to love our father and mother is included on that tablet. So with the first tablet, love is directed toward Yahweh (אהאד) = 13. The second tablet teaches us how to love (אהאד) our neighbor = 13.

The name Yahweh is איהוה in the Hebrew. א = 5 + ה = 6 + א = 5 + ה = 10 = 26. Love toward Yahweh equals 13 and love toward neighbor equals 13, which also equals 26! Yahweh is love. “He that loveth not knoweth not Elohim; for **Elohim is love**,” 1 Jn. 4:8. Again, he writes, “And we have known and believed the love that Elohim hath to us. **Elohim is love** (אהאד); and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in Elohim, and Elohim in him,” 1 Jn. 4:16.

Paul understood these principles for he wrote, “Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore **love is the fulfilling of the law**,” Ro. 13:8-10.

## THE WORLD'S LOVE

Yahshua told the Pharisees, “And as he spake, a certain Pharisee besought him to dine with him: and he went in, and sat down to meat. And when the Pharisee saw it, he marvelled that he had not first washed before dinner. And

the Master said unto him, Now do ye Pharisees make clean the outside of the cup and the platter; but your inward part is full of ravening and wickedness. Ye fools, did not he that made that which is without make that which is within also? But rather give alms of such things as ye have; and, behold, all things are clean unto you. But woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and **pass over judgment and the love of Elohim**: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone. Woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye love the uppermost seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the markets. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are as graves which appear not, and the men that walk over them are not aware of them,” Lk. 11:37-44.

Again, Yahshua said, “Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life. I receive not honour from men. But I know you, that **ye have not the love of Elohim in you**,” Jn. 5:39-42.

He declared, “I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father. They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Yahshua saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham. But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of Elohim: this did not Abraham. Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even Elohim. Yahshua said unto them, If Elohim were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from Elohim; neither came I of myself, but he sent me. Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word. Ye are of

your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not. Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me? He that is of Elohim heareth Elohim's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of Elohim," Jn. 8:38-47.

What about those in today's world? John writes, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of Elohim abideth for ever," 1 Jn. 2:15-17.

For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against Yahweh: for it is not subject to the law of Yahweh, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please Yahweh. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of Yahweh dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of the Messiah, he is none of his," Ro. 8:5-9.

The world has a tendency to call its form of love romance and we hear about certain things that are romantic. But take a look that the first five letters in these words: **romance**, **romantic**. The book of Daniel reveals that the fourth kingdom of chapter two and the fourth beast of

chapter seven is Rome. The Latin word for love is *amor*. **Amor** spelled backwards is Roma, the Latin name for the city of Rome.

The love of Yahweh is not in Rome, neither is it in romance or things that are called romantic. That is the spirit and love of the world, not the love of Yahweh.

## THE SPIRIT OF LOVE

If we are going to be able to have and exercise the love of Yahweh, then we need His spirit. Paul writes that the very firstfruit of the Spirit is love, “But the fruit of the Spirit is love....,” Gal. 5:22.

Yahshua said, “A new commandment I give unto you, That ye **love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another**. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another,” Jn. 13:34-35.

Yahshua came to serve and not be served. He came to give of Himself, to do the Father’s will, obey the word, and sacrifice Himself for the sins of the world. It is incumbent upon His followers, His disciples to be willing to give of themselves for the good not only of the brethren, but for the world also, even though we are not to love the world. We are to love the world with the love of the Father and the Son, not with the love that the world has for itself.

Paul exhorts, “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of Yahweh, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of Yahweh. 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 Yahweh hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in the Messiah, and every one members one of another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness. **Let love be without dissimulation.** Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another; Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Sovereign; Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer; Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality. Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not. Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep. Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits. Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith Yahweh. Therefore **if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.** Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good,” Ro. 12:1-21.

Again, he encourages, “For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another. This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh,” Gal. 5:13-16.

Keep the love (אֱהָבָה) of the Spirit in your heart and the Father will reveal (רָאָה) Himself in you through His beloved Son Yahshua the Messiah, and when He returns to this earth, we will be like Him because we will see Him as He is.





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