

Uttermost LOVE

(continued from front page)

Many are the times I listened to **The Beatles** while doing drugs—including their hit, *All You Need Is Love*. But I have found in One Source alone, the perfect *Word-Guide* and also the perfect *Action-Guide*. By *word*, by *works* and by His *walk* Jesus Christ has no rival. All of it shows unparalleled Love—a love with no weird gurus, philosophical blather, hypocritical inconsistency and dope.

OK, let's turn away from that, and look for a moment at great Bible characters for an example of love. Throughout their days in leadership of God's ancient people, Moses, Joshua and Samuel demonstrated a love to the very end. Peter and Paul did likewise in the *New Testament* times; encouraging the believers to keep faithful to God. *Yet none of these great leaders of Old Testament or New equalled, much less excelled Jesus Christ.* None of them said about themselves what Jesus said about Himself...and remember, Jesus not only *spoke*, He *acted!* Jesus' Great Action, in the Cross-Resurrection Event was the Grand Finale of God's Foretold Rescue of Man, which was promised since Man's "Fall" in Eden. **This is why Jesus could say on the Cross: "It is finished!"**

Furthermore, the Bible book called "Hebrews" not only compares Jesus to Moses the Lawgiver, and Moses' brother Aaron (God's first designated high-priest), but even to angels themselves! Christ is seen as "better than" them all. That means that Jesus is "better than" God's best! *AND*, if you look at the first chapter of Hebrews, you will *easily* see that no one *DURING* or *AFTER* Bible times can equal Jesus Christ. You will see there that

His credentials make it *impossible* for any other to steal His job or improve on His character or work! And Jesus *IS* what He is, and *DID* what He did because of an **Uttermost Love** for God the Father and for the entire human race.

I share more about this wonderful truth inside. Please take the time to read, think about it, and then make any needed changes. No matter what your background, "*He is able also to save them TO THE UTTERMOST that come unto God by Him/self*" (Heb.7:25). The "He" and "Him" in that verse refer to Jesus as God's endless High Priest to forever pray in behalf of all who truly walk with God.

Remember, John 13-17 starts with **Jesus' Uttermost Love**, but ALSO shows us the Satan-filled heart of Judas, ready to betray. These chapters not only *begin* with Christ and Judas, but also *end* with the same. John 17 is called Christ's High-Priestly Prayer. After this Prayer, Jesus and the disciples went to the Garden of Gethsemane, where He continued in prayer. But the Bible says, "*And Judas also, which betrayed Him, knew the place!*" (18:2). He *knew*, but he still betrayed. Oh, what sin against **Uttermost Love!** Yet, when Judas arrives with the arresting soldiers, Jesus calls Judas "*Friend*" or "*Companion!*" (Matt. 26:50). **That is Love to the Uttermost!** That same word, "*Friend*" is used by Jesus in telling of the unhappy worker in the vineyard ("*Friend, I do you no wrong.*" Matt.20:13) and of the man without the proper wedding clothes ("*Friend, how do you come in here, not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless.*" Matt.22:12).

God reasons with us regarding our sin, our rejection and our neglect. I ask again, Would you like to be **loved to the uttermost?** This love *reaches out to and will raise the lowest to the highest—To The Uttermost...* and it's *YOURS!*

"LOVE SLAVES" Prostitution is a world-wide evil, permitted like other evils, by some within governments. Totally opposite, God wants us to be a type of "love-slave" to HIM—serving Him because we want to, and refuse to go "free." God gave us a symbol for it in Exodus 21:1-5. St. Paul considered himself such a slave. The Ethiopian Queen of Sheba "came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon," and Jesus adds (referring to Himself), "and a Greater than Solomon is here!" Come from your "uttermost" for Christ's Uttermost Love! God calls: "Look to Me, and be saved, ALL you ends of the earth! (Isa.45:22).

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The

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London Christian Standard ...and Provincial

"Lift up a standard for the people." Isaiah 62:10

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God's Greatest Demonstration of Love is now being celebrated! The 40 days of "Lent" lead to "Good Friday" and "Easter" in April. Differing "dates," worldly commercialism and non-Biblical beliefs and practises must *NEVER* obscure The Main Thing! Good Friday and Easter commemorate the Cross-Resurrection Event. Each time Jesus told His disciples of His coming death, He *always* added: "but in three days I will rise again!" Yes, He *DID* say it! Glory!

This Event is foundational to the historic Christian Faith; no doubt giving rise to the non-stop attack from *inside* and *outside* Christianity. Responding to arguments would keep me from sharing the glorious truths of this unparalleled Event. I could *never* tell it *all*, especially in one issue of our little paper.

John 13-17 covers the time when Jesus

and His disciples celebrated the Jewish Feast of Passover (Pesach, which we call "The Last Supper") in the "upper room." You would spiritually benefit by reading John 13-17 carefully for yourself, and letting it soak in.

The very first verse in this five-chapter section says: "*Now before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.*" The phrase, "*to the end*" can be translated "*to the uttermost!*"

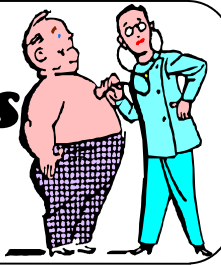
How would you like to be loved to the uttermost?! Believe it or not, you are! Those who are tempted to doubt God's love for them should look at the relationship between God and Jesus. Christ is our "Standard;" our Example to compare to. Did God the Father make life easy for His Son, Jesus? No, He faced life like we face it, and *WE* are to "*walk as HE walked!*" (1 Jn. 2:6). Look at Christ's disciples, and include the Apostle Paul. None of Christ's disciples, including Paul, had life easy, but were persecuted and had little of this world's goods. Tell me—what were they living for?

(continued on back page)

UTTERMOST LUST! Uttermost LOVE has its counterfeit! Jesus was asked: "What is the Great Commandment?" For special effect and emphasis, I leave out some of the words of His answer, and just quote: "You shall love the Lord your God with all...& with all...& with all...& with all!" (see Luke 10:27). Get the point? But, if we fail or refuse to make this our determination, then be sure, the pre-eminent love we owe to God will go toward something else...beginning with ourselves! This happens among us "common folk," but is also the passion of the very determined, organised & controlling International bankers, who plan to put the whole world at their feet. What is your chief "love?"

Why We Need This Love

Gabriel L. Mancino



Peter himself had denied the Lord and even began swearing! Thankfully he genuinely repented and returned in humility. Paul gives another example in 2 Tim. 4:11 with the words, "Take Mark...for he is profitable to me for the ministry." Mark had abandoned Paul before, but was now being restored and is even *spiritually* labelled "profitable!"

What examples of the restoring power of The Uttermost Love of God!

We need this Uttermost Love also because *THE WORLD* is in an uttermost mess! I don't need to prove this fact, for the media does that job very well. However, the controlled media is only reporting a fraction of the true world condition. Yet, can we rightly blame others, if we see the mess, but keep ignoring or even play in the mess ourselves? Rather, we would be wise to ask: Where is the Cure?!(Not Drug Companies, Banks or Government!)

Yes, Jesus showed Uttermost Love to His disciples, but then told them that after He sent the Holy Spirit of God upon and within them, that they were then to go "to the uttermost parts of the earth!" Jesus commanded that all those who really know and love Him are to share and demonstrate His redeeming love to all people everywhere. "Redeeming Love" is the Uttermost Love that saves, lifts, restores and builds, though it passes through the paths of pain, sorrow and suffering as Jesus Himself did, and His followers.

Finally, we need this Uttermost Love as a constant inflow and support because a "one-time fix" is both insufficient and out of character with this type of love. A one-off "I DO" will not work in a marriage, either, and the Bible uses this "first God-ordained institution of marriage" as an illustration of our union with Christ and God. Let these three basic reasons of needing God's Uttermost Love sink in deeply.

The Uttermost Love of the front page article, based on John 13-17, sees Jesus washing His disciples' feet. This was one of Jesus' great "object lessons" on the tremendous need of humility and service, which all true lovers of Christ must whole-heartedly seek, experience and live. There are too many truths in Chapter 13 alone for me to cover in this little paper. Here's just one: Peter wanted to do it *his way*, going from one extreme to the other. Jesus said, "If you don't obey, you are O-U-T!" People so often want God to accommodate their ideas, rather than simply obey His clear command.

One reason we need this Uttermost Love is because WE are in an uttermost mess due to sin. An example of this comes immediately after the very first verse of John 13 which is printed on the front page. Yes, Jesus loved His disciples throughout their time together until they were physically separated from Him. But even more, Jesus loved them "to the uttermost;" "TO THE MAX!" with a love that could not be improved upon.

Yet, the very next verse tells us how Satan put into Judas' heart to betray Jesus Christ. All the disciples were together with Jesus in that Upper Room for the Passover meal ("The Last Supper"), but Jesus never spoke to Judas in a way different than He spoke to the other disciples. He loved Judas "to the uttermost," as well. Sadly, Judas did not return to the Lord in repentance, but decided to commit suicide.

"LENT" LESSONS: Lent, the 40 days before Easter, supposedly reflects Jesus' wilderness temptation; a time of fasting and prayer, as well. Matt. 4 & Luke 4 show the context of that event, which is full of powerful truth. 1) The Fullness of the Holy Ghost—Lk.4:1, 14, 18. Jesus entered & left the temptation in the Spirit's fullness. Will you be like Jesus in this? 2) Jesus had a knowledge of both God's Word & Satan's tricks! Jesus quoted Scripture, but so did the devil! Be on guard! 3) Satan tried to tempt Christ just as he did Adam & Eve, with 3 aspects of temptation. 1 Jn 2:15,16 describes as "the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life." For "lust" some Bibles have "gratification," "desire" or "craving." You see Satan use it all in Genesis 3:6, but in vain against Jesus. HIS victory in temptation can assure ours! 4) Besides the calling of His disciples (Matt.4:18), Old Testament prophecies (Matt. 4:13-17 & Lk.4:18,19) linked Christ's coming with the Holy Spirit's indwelling for life & service to save OTHERS! Let's apply these Lent Lessons!

Green Tree, Dry Tree

Gabriel L. Mancino



Since Jesus suffered so much on the Cross, how can we call it "GOOD Friday?" Mel Gibson referred to it as "The Passion of the Christ." Yet, Christ's suffering was mixed with JOY, and I do not refer to the sadistic "joy" of Jesus' enemies. Hebrews 12: 2 says "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." On the Cross joy and suffering mixed in an Uttermost Love that can save us all from all sin.

In the journey to the Crucifixion site, Jesus turned to speak to some women who were weeping for Him. He told them to weep for themselves and for the nation in view of the soon-coming destruction of the entire city of Jerusalem by the Romans (see Luke 23:26-31). Jesus also appealed to any remaining human or spiritual sense they had, saying: "For if they do these things when the tree is green, what will they do when it is dry?" Another translation says, "For if these things are done in the green tree, what shall take place in the dry?"

Jesus' question above is suggestive. Green wood doesn't burn easily, but dry wood does. Soon enough, the Romans who condemned a pure and innocent Man, would completely destroy a city full of guilt and corruption of every sort. Britain's "green tree" has become exceedingly "dry" over generations. God's blessing upon this nation due to the Gospel of Jesus Christ has been left to wither. Modern British society is evidence enough of the spiritual dryness of the nation. I dread to think what judgement may be

just around the corner. Time will tell.

True, the obliteration of Jerusalem didn't happen until about 40 years after Jesus spoke those and other words regarding this specific matter...but it came! St. Paul, writing to the Greek church in the city of Thessalonica, spoke of God's wrath upon Jerusalem in a peculiar way. Paul's letter was written about 20 years after those prophetic words of Jesus. That means there were still 20 years to go. What a relief? No...not then and not now!

Paul was comforting the persecuted Christians of Thessalonica, saying that the Jewish Christians suffered at the hands of their own countrymen just like the Thessalonian Christians were by their countrymen. But Paul, speaking of God's judgement on Jerusalem due to their persistent rejection of Christ and the Gospel, wrote: "but wrath has come upon them to the uttermost!" (1 Thess. 2:16). We could well think that God's "uttermost wrath" came upon Jerusalem 20 years later, but Paul was revealing a terrible truth. Jerusalem had rejected and resisted God so long, that God had made up His mind, and it was just a matter of time.

Friends, let this truth sink into your hearts and minds. God offers an Uttermost Love and Salvation to anyone and everyone who comes to Him on HIS terms, not your terms or mine! But if we are determined to have our way as an individual, as a nation and as a world, then there is only one thing left. It is just a matter of time. God is faithful to extend His love to all, but just as faithful to warn us of the consequences of rejection and neglect. There is no greater sin than the sin against the Uttermost Love of Almighty God, whatever form that sin takes. We, too, are trying to be faithful to share both sides of this truth. I pray that there will be a movement among people of all backgrounds here in Britain. It is time! High time!

We meet at Christ Church on the corner of Brent Street and Heriot Road in Hendon (NW4) at 5:45 pm Sundays. Nearest Tube: Hendon Central.

GO TO THE LAWYER! Newspapers are encyclopaedic evidence that Britain and the rest of the world are "living in denial" (to borrow the expression). The "denial" takes innumerable forms, but it permeates every "nook and cranny" in the nation. This year "celebrates" the greatest denial of all: God's own existence, via Darwinism. Recent Daily Telegraph "Polls" 2 months apart contradict each other regarding British belief of Evolution or Creationism! So much for "Polls." One Catholic "expert" says that imperfect aspects within the living world disprove Creation by a perfect Creator. But the "expert" fails to mention the cause of the imperfection: Man's Fall into sin, which has blighted the entire planet! So says St. Paul in the 1st century (Rom.8:22). Over 600 years before, Jeremiah said that even with widespread destruction, yet man remains stubborn & stupid! (Jer. 12:11). Another denial is God's right to rule over us. Yet God the Judge has provided us a Lawyer, who St. John identifies as Jesus Christ the Righteous. God and Christ will exercise justice. Judgement IS coming...even now, as pictured above. How will you plead? Act now. Please forgive the small print in this issue, yet please study & enjoy it, & share with others.