



IN HIS IMAGE

PATIENT AND KIND LOVE



THE IMAGE OF GOD

GOD IS LOVE

- ^{ESV} **1 JOHN 4:8** ANYONE WHO DOES NOT LOVE DOES NOT KNOW GOD, BECAUSE GOD IS LOVE...¹⁶ SO WE HAVE COME TO KNOW AND TO BELIEVE THE LOVE THAT GOD HAS FOR US. GOD IS LOVE, AND WHOEVER ABIDES IN LOVE ABIDES IN GOD, AND GOD ABIDES IN HIM.

GOD IS LOVE

- LOVE IS THE VERY ESSENCE, NOT MERELY AN ATTRIBUTE, OF GOD. IT IS CO-ESSENTIAL WITH HIM: HE IS ALL LOVE, LOVE IS ALL OF HIM
 - *HENRY ALFORD*
- THE APOSTLE TELLS US THAT GOD IS LOVE, 1 JOHN 4:8. AND THEREFORE SEEING HE IS AN INFINITE BEING, IT FOLLOWS THAT HE IS AN INFINITE FOUNTAIN OF LOVE.
 - *JONATHAN EDWARDS*

DEFINING [AGAPE] LOVE

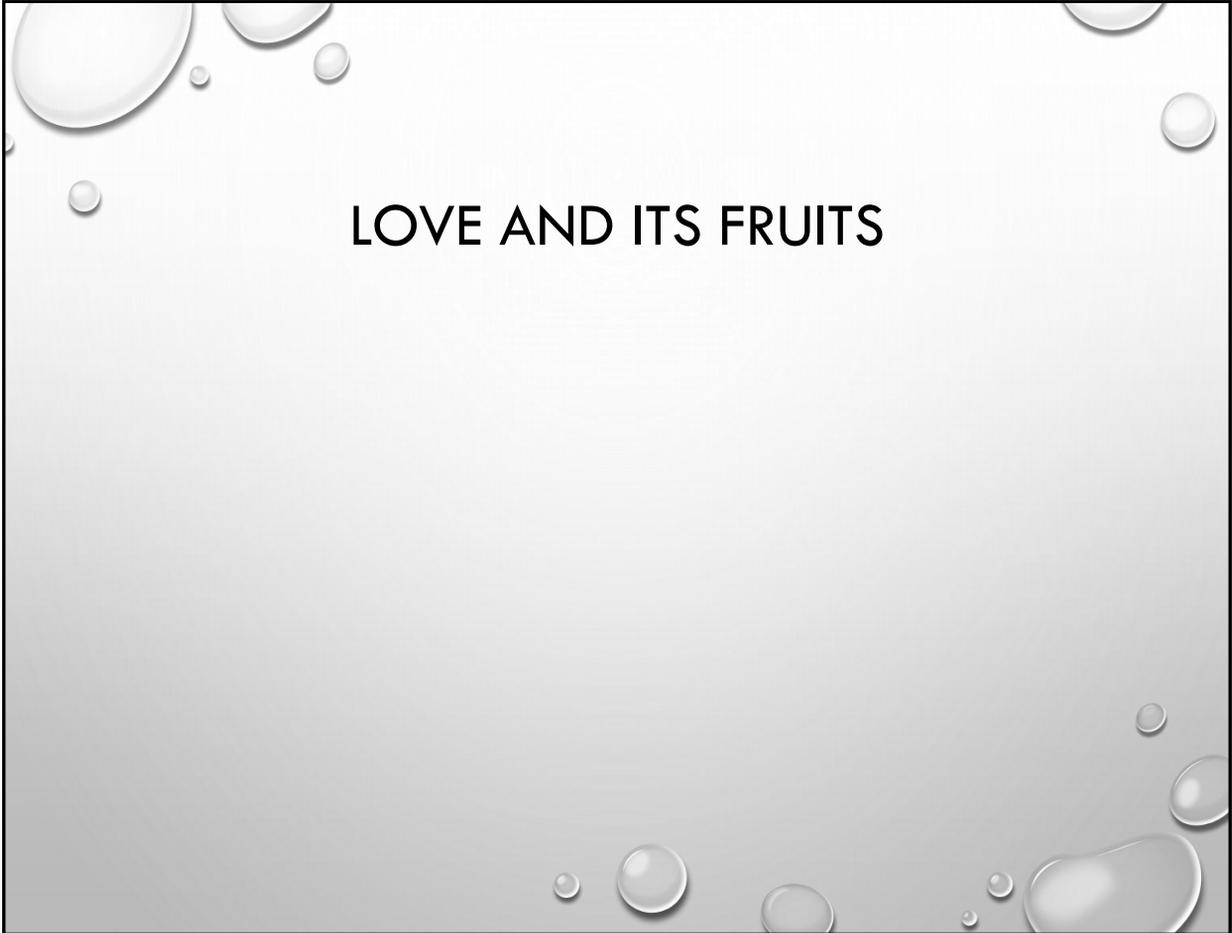
- ^{ESV} **1 JOHN 4:10** IN THIS IS LOVE, NOT THAT WE HAVE LOVED GOD BUT THAT HE LOVED US AND SENT HIS SON TO BE THE PROPITIATION FOR OUR SINS.
- ^{NAS} **JOHN 3:16** "FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD, THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH, BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.

WORK OF THE SPIRIT

- ^{NAS} **2 CORINTHIANS 3:18** BUT WE ALL, WITH UNVEILED FACE BEHOLDING AS IN A MIRROR THE GLORY OF THE LORD, ARE BEING TRANSFORMED INTO THE SAME IMAGE FROM GLORY TO GLORY, JUST AS FROM THE LORD, THE SPIRIT.

LOVE IS SUPREME

- ^{NAS} **1 CORINTHIANS 13:13** BUT NOW ABIDE FAITH, HOPE, LOVE, THESE THREE; BUT THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE.
- ^{ESV} **COLOSSIANS 3:12** PUT ON THEN, AS GOD'S CHOSEN ONES, HOLY AND BELOVED, COMPASSIONATE HEARTS, KINDNESS, HUMILITY, MEEKNESS, AND PATIENCE, ¹³ BEARING WITH ONE ANOTHER AND, IF ONE HAS A COMPLAINT AGAINST ANOTHER, FORGIVING EACH OTHER; AS THE LORD HAS FORGIVEN YOU, SO YOU ALSO MUST FORGIVE. ¹⁴ AND ABOVE ALL THESE PUT ON LOVE ...
- ^{NAS} **1 CORINTHIANS 16:14** LET ALL THAT YOU DO BE DONE IN LOVE.



FRUIT OF LOVE

- ^{NAS} **1 CORINTHIANS 13:4** LOVE IS PATIENT, LOVE IS KIND, ...

- PATIENCE: FORBEARANCE, LONG-SUFFERING, SLOWNESS IN AVENGING WRONGS, SLOW TO ANGER
- KIND: (GENTLE, MEEK) GENTLE HAS REFERENCE ESPECIALLY TO DISPOSITION AND BEHAVIOR, AND OFTEN SUGGESTS A DELIBERATE OR VOLUNTARY KINDNESS OR FORBEARANCE IN DEALING WITH OTHERS.

PATIENT AND KIND LOVE

- LOVE INCLINES CHRISTIANS TO MEEKLY BEAR ILL THAT IS RECEIVED FROM OTHERS, AND TO CHEERFULLY AND FREELY DO GOOD TO OTHERS

- ^{NAS} **COLOSSIANS 3:12** AND SO, AS THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN CHOSEN OF GOD, HOLY AND BELOVED, PUT ON A HEART OF COMPASSION, KINDNESS, HUMILITY, GENTLENESS AND PATIENCE; ¹³ BEARING WITH ONE ANOTHER, AND FORGIVING EACH OTHER, WHOEVER HAS A COMPLAINT AGAINST ANYONE; JUST AS THE LORD FORGAVE YOU, SO ALSO SHOULD YOU.
- ^{NAS} **NUMBERS 14:18** 'THE LORD IS SLOW TO ANGER AND ABUNDANT IN LOVINGKINDNESS, FORGIVING INIQUITY AND TRANSGRESSION;
- ^{NAS} **PSALM 145:8** THE LORD IS GRACIOUS AND MERCIFUL; SLOW TO ANGER AND GREAT IN LOVINGKINDNESS.

MEEKLY BEARING ILL RECEIVED FROM OTHERS

1. INJURIES SUFFERED SHOULD BE BORNE WITHOUT DOING ANYTHING TO REVENGE THEM
 - WHEN WE SEEK REVENGE WE ARE NOT BEARING THE ILL

2. INJURIES SHOULD BE BORNE WITH CONTINUING LOVE IN OUR HEART
 - WE ARE CALLED TO UNCONDITIONALLY LOVE OUR NEIGHBOUR

3. INJURIES SHOULD BE BORNE WITH INNER CALMNESS
 - INNER TURMOIL DISTRACTS OUR MINDS FROM CHRIST

- ^{NIV} **1 CORINTHIANS 6:1** IF ANY OF YOU HAS A DISPUTE WITH ANOTHER, DARE HE TAKE IT BEFORE THE UNGODLY FOR JUDGMENT INSTEAD OF BEFORE THE SAINTS? ...⁷ THE VERY FACT THAT YOU HAVE LAWSUITS AMONG YOU MEANS YOU HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY DEFEATED ALREADY. WHY NOT RATHER BE WRONGED? WHY NOT RATHER BE CHEATED?
- ^{ESV} **LUKE 21:16** YOU WILL BE DELIVERED UP EVEN BY PARENTS AND BROTHERS AND RELATIVES AND FRIENDS, AND SOME OF YOU THEY WILL PUT TO DEATH. ¹⁷ YOU WILL BE HATED BY ALL FOR MY NAME'S SAKE... ¹⁹ BY YOUR ENDURANCE YOU WILL GAIN YOUR LIVES.

- ^{ESV} **MATTHEW 5:43** "YOU HAVE HEARD THAT IT WAS SAID, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AND HATE YOUR ENEMY.' ⁴⁴ BUT I SAY TO YOU, LOVE YOUR ENEMIES AND PRAY FOR THOSE WHO PERSECUTE YOU, ⁴⁵ SO THAT YOU MAY BE SONS OF YOUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN. FOR HE MAKES HIS SUN RISE ON THE EVIL AND ON THE GOOD, AND SENDS RAIN ON THE JUST AND ON THE UNJUST. ⁴⁶ FOR IF YOU LOVE THOSE WHO LOVE YOU, WHAT REWARD DO YOU HAVE? DO NOT EVEN THE TAX COLLECTORS DO THE SAME? ⁴⁷ AND IF YOU GREET ONLY YOUR BROTHERS, WHAT MORE ARE YOU DOING THAN OTHERS? DO NOT EVEN THE GENTILES DO THE SAME? ⁴⁸ YOU THEREFORE MUST BE PERFECT, AS YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER IS PERFECT.



APPLICATIONS

1. GOD IS PATIENT AND KIND TO US

- ^{NAS} **NUMBERS 14:18** 'THE LORD IS SLOW TO ANGER AND ABUNDANT IN LOVINGKINDNESS, FORGIVING INIQUITY AND TRANSGRESSION;
- ^{NIV} **1 TIMOTHY 1:13** EVEN THOUGH I WAS ONCE A BLASPHEMER AND A PERSECUTOR AND A VIOLENT MAN, I WAS SHOWN MERCY ... ¹⁴ THE GRACE OF OUR LORD WAS POURED OUT ON ME ABUNDANTLY, ALONG WITH THE FAITH AND LOVE THAT ARE IN CHRIST JESUS. ¹⁵ HERE IS A TRUSTWORTHY SAYING THAT DESERVES FULL ACCEPTANCE: CHRIST JESUS CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS-- OF WHOM I AM THE WORST. ¹⁶ BUT FOR THAT VERY REASON I WAS SHOWN MERCY SO THAT IN ME, THE WORST OF SINNERS, CHRIST JESUS MIGHT DISPLAY HIS UNLIMITED PATIENCE AS AN EXAMPLE FOR THOSE WHO WOULD BELIEVE ON HIM AND RECEIVE ETERNAL LIFE.

2. LOVING GOD HUMBLER US

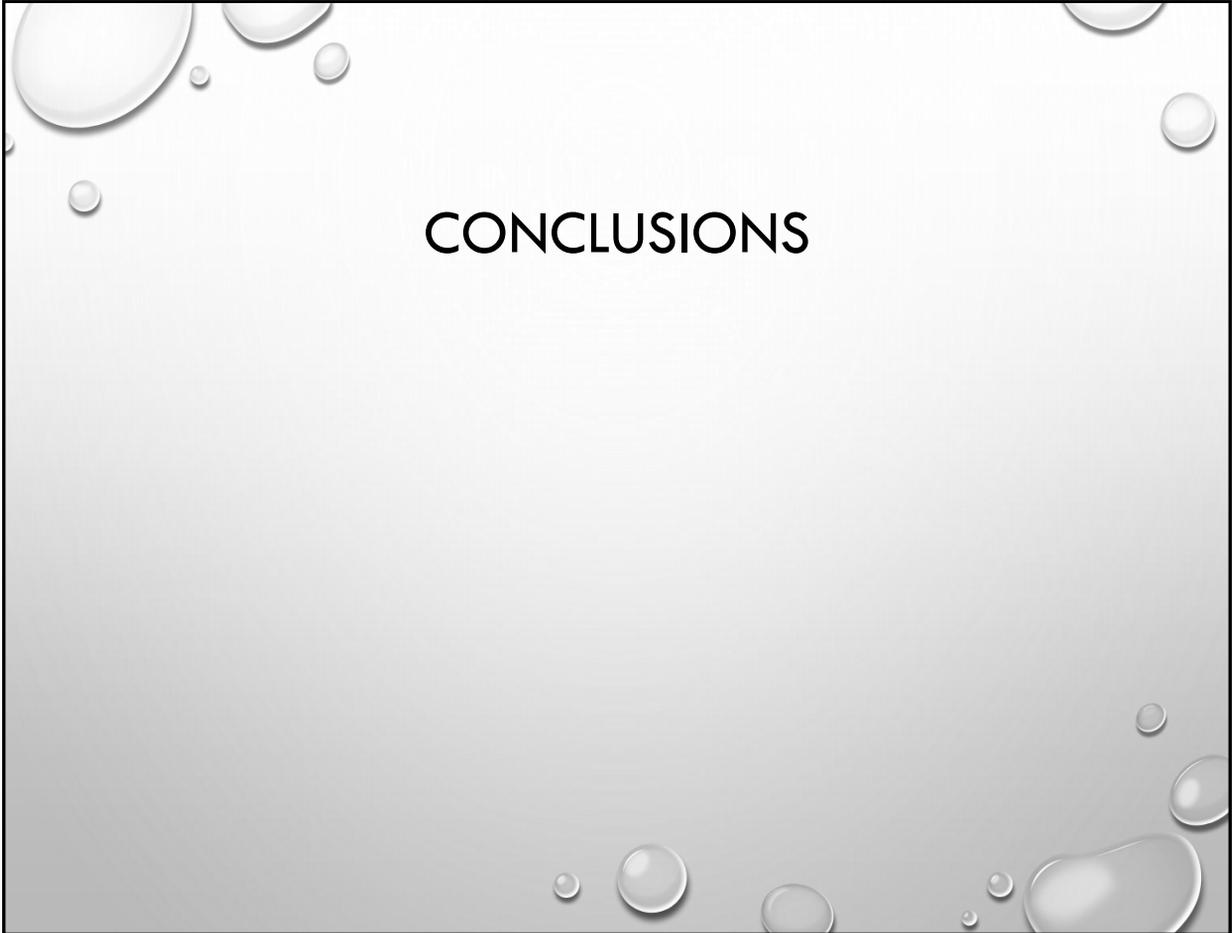
- WHEN WE TRULY LOVE GOD WE MAGNIFY HIM AND HUMBLE OURSELVES
 - HUMILITY IS A MAIN ROOT OF A MEEK AND LONG SUFFERING SPIRIT
 - PRIDE IS THE FOUNDATION OF BITTER RESENTMENT AND A REVENGEFUL SPIRIT

3. GOD DISPENSES LOVE THROUGH ADVERSITY

- ^{NAS} **GENESIS 50:20** "AND AS FOR YOU, YOU MEANT EVIL AGAINST ME, *BUT* GOD MEANT IT FOR GOOD IN ORDER TO BRING ABOUT THIS PRESENT RESULT, TO PRESERVE MANY PEOPLE ALIVE.
- ^{NAS} **ROMANS 8:28** AND WE KNOW THAT GOD CAUSES ALL THINGS TO WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD TO THOSE WHO LOVE GOD, TO THOSE WHO ARE CALLED ACCORDING TO *HIS* PURPOSE...³¹ WHAT THEN SHALL WE SAY TO THESE THINGS? IF GOD *IS* FOR US, WHO *IS* AGAINST US?
- ^{ESV} **ROMANS 5:3** MORE THAN THAT, WE REJOICE IN OUR SUFFERINGS, KNOWING THAT SUFFERING PRODUCES ENDURANCE, ⁴ AND ENDURANCE PRODUCES CHARACTER, AND CHARACTER PRODUCES HOPE,

4. IN LOVE GOD PROTECTS US

- ^{ESV} **DEUTERONOMY 33:27** THE ETERNAL GOD IS YOUR DWELLING PLACE, AND UNDERNEATH ARE THE EVERLASTING ARMS...
- ^{NAS} **COLOSSIANS 3:3** FOR YOU HAVE DIED AND YOUR LIFE IS HIDDEN WITH CHRIST IN GOD.
- ^{NAS} **1 PETER 1:3** BLESSED BE THE GOD AND FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, WHO ACCORDING TO HIS GREAT MERCY HAS CAUSED US TO BE BORN AGAIN TO A LIVING HOPE THROUGH THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST FROM THE DEAD, ⁴ TO OBTAIN AN INHERITANCE WHICH IS IMPERISHABLE AND UNDEFILED AND WILL NOT FADE AWAY, RESERVED IN HEAVEN FOR YOU, ⁵ WHO ARE PROTECTED BY THE POWER OF GOD THROUGH FAITH FOR A SALVATION READY TO BE REVEALED IN THE LAST TIME.

A decorative rectangular frame with a light gray gradient background. The frame is adorned with several realistic water droplets of varying sizes, scattered primarily along the top and bottom edges. The word "CONCLUSIONS" is centered within the frame in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

CONCLUSIONS

BEAR THE FRUITS OF LOVE

- ^{NAS} **1 CORINTHIANS 13:4** LOVE IS PATIENT, LOVE IS KIND, ...
- ^{NAS} **COLOSSIANS 3:12** AND SO, AS THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN CHOSEN OF GOD, HOLY AND BELOVED, PUT ON A HEART OF COMPASSION, KINDNESS, HUMILITY, GENTLENESS AND PATIENCE; ¹³ BEARING WITH ONE ANOTHER, AND FORGIVING EACH OTHER, WHOEVER HAS A COMPLAINT AGAINST ANYONE; JUST AS THE LORD FORGAVE YOU, SO ALSO SHOULD YOU.

BE PATIENT AND KIND

- ^{ESV} **REVELATION 21:3** AND I HEARD A LOUD VOICE FROM THE THRONE SAYING, "BEHOLD, THE DWELLING PLACE OF GOD IS WITH MAN. HE WILL DWELL WITH THEM, AND THEY WILL BE HIS PEOPLE, AND GOD HIMSELF WILL BE WITH THEM AS THEIR GOD. ⁴ HE WILL WIPE AWAY EVERY TEAR FROM THEIR EYES, AND DEATH SHALL BE NO MORE, NEITHER SHALL THERE BE MOURNING, NOR CRYING, NOR PAIN ANYMORE, FOR THE FORMER THINGS HAVE PASSED AWAY."
- ^{NAS} **1 JOHN 3:2** BELOVED, NOW WE ARE CHILDREN OF GOD, AND IT HAS NOT APPEARED AS YET WHAT WE SHALL BE. WE KNOW THAT, WHEN HE APPEARS, WE SHALL BE LIKE HIM, BECAUSE WE SHALL SEE HIM JUST AS HE IS.

FOCUS ON CHRIST

- ^{NIV} **HEBREWS 12:2** LET US FIX OUR EYES ON JESUS, THE AUTHOR AND PERFECTER OF OUR FAITH, WHO FOR THE JOY SET BEFORE HIM ENDURED THE CROSS, SCORNING ITS SHAME, AND SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE THRONE OF GOD.