

Volume 3 - Day 9: Genuine Affection

As Christians we are very different from those who are not. We are to be so completely different that everyone notices that we are. And as Jesus put it, "By this will everyone know that you are My disciples, that you have love for one another." So the distinction of Christianity is unconditional love for each other. That means that people know that we actually have affection for them and are not just going through the motions trying to look like we care. We have **e**-motions not just motions toward them.

Every man, woman and child alive today wants to be loved by someone. Christians should be the most loving people on earth. As a matter of fact, if we were, our churches would be bursting at the seams. The one earthly treasure which hinders us the most is the strong desire for a good reputation among men (applause). Another lesser treasure here is comfort and pleasure (indulgence). The third significant thing that is valuable to us here is to be worshipped (in control of our own personal kingdom and respected by others) and to tell others how they should behave. It is ever, only and always deep affection for God that causes one to delight in Him and those who are in Him, regardless of their behaviors.

I believe that my **treasures in heaven** are relationships with those whom I loved enough to introduce to a personal relationship with God for themselves. Seeing them again will be my greatest joy. (And, just so you know, no one lives in a mansion in heaven. The correct term is efficiency apartment.) Simply follow God's revelation. Live for the soul, developing relationships that last into eternity, and let the love of God flow so strongly through you that you are asked why you are so full of grace and peace in all circumstances.

My Confirming Scripture: My Aligning Experiences:

DEEPER Every Day -- John Henry Alan