

# Love Everlasting

*On the Final Sunday of Advent—Love*  
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## Introduction

*Merry Christmas Everyone! This is the final sermon of this Advent series.*

Why do you exist? Why did God make you? Why were you born?

This question gets at the very heart of your purpose in life, the very fabric of what makes you you.

What is the essence of your existence? Why do you exist?

If you're an atheist, there is no "why".

There is only a why, if there is a reason for why "why" exists.

To understand why God made you, why you were born, we need to understand who God is and why God was born—begotten in the flesh.

## 1. So—Whence Death?

In the beginning, God created mankind to have communion and fellowship with Him. We were made in His image to love Him and express that love in and through all things for all things, that is, for all people.

But we fell into sin. Sin leads to death. Two sides of a coin. And God said,

### **Genesis 2:19**

By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread,  
till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken;  
for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

God submitted our flesh from whence it came—the ground. From that point onward, to be called a son of Adam, meant you were a child of the earth, a son of death, estranged from God our Father.

Death is separation, alienation, division, and schism from God, the giver of life.

Death is now part of our fallen nature; it has disfigured / marred His image we bear. Our essence is now in schism against the Giver of Life, which leads to many twisted wants and desires.

In other words, death—separation from God—has left a vacuum inside our soul, and has instilled in us a desire for dying.

**Genesis 4:6-8** — The Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, and you must rule over it.”

Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him.

Cain was found wanting. This want killed Abel.

But our Heavenly Father had a plan to restore us in communion and fellowship with Him once and forevermore.

## 2. The Cosmic War: Love v. Death

There is a cosmic war between the opposing powers of love and death.

### **Song of Songs 8:6**

Set me as a seal upon your heart,  
As a seal upon your arm;  
For love is as strong as death,  
Jealousy as cruel as the grave;  
Its flames are flames of fire,  
A most vehement flame.

Now death has many opposites, if you will:

- **Birth** = begin (death = end), birth is life coming into material: God-breathed
- **Life** = process of living, growth | death = process of decay, emptying, entropy
- **Love** is couched in life/growth — love grows
- **Want** is couched in death/decay — want dies

Want indicates a lack or deficiency of something as well as a desire for that something to be satisfied/restored. **Want is the process of decay taking effect.**

I.e., when you are hungry, you lack food, you need nourishment. If you do not satisfy that want, your body will eat itself.

**The essence of life is love, and essence of death is want.**

### **We are found wanting!**

Death separates and alienates.

Death wants and devours.

Death turns us to dust. It atomizes and individualizes.

Death is never satisfied.

Love embraces and communes.

Love satisfies and comforts.

True love never fades. It cannot be broken nor disunified.

Love is whole. Always.

In sin, alienated from God, want is a pit that cannot be filled by our own works, terms, or merit. It cannot be satisfied. Want is love lost—only love can fill that want.

### 3. Chaos: The Love of Death

Since we are fallen, enslaved to sin and death, it means that your love, by nature of sin, has fallen and is still falling into want without God.

Evidence of this effect is people say: “I love pizza” — but Like/Want ≠ Love  
It means you can love falsely—in contradiction.

**Proverbs 8:36** — But he who sins against me wrongs his own soul; All those who hate me [God] love death.

Loving death is pure confusion. Chaos! It is mixing of two or more incompatible ends that do not work together. It is not only self-contradictory, it is self-destructive. You cannot love death without desiring it upon yourself. Love inherently brings and binds things together—love unifies, communes, fellowships.

This want is circular, and breeds confusion: double-minded + double-tongued — double intentioned (modern psychology calls this “cognitive dissonance” when a person holds contradictory or conflicting beliefs and acts on both at the same time). You are a spiritual tornado of two opposing fronts colliding into each other and wreaking havoc in your wake, perhaps without even realizing it.

Demonic parasites (bottomless pits of want) sink their fangs into this confusion to devour and destroy you from the inside out. **Genesis 4:7** — “sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, and you must rule over it.”

#### **Mery Christmas everyone...**

Confusion is want dying in a bed of lies made for itself. And want, left to its own devices, always leads to death — b/c that’s where we’re headed without God.  
Only God can fill your want!

**Psalm 23:1-4** — The Lord is my shepherd; **I shall not want**. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name’s sake. Yea, though **I walk through the valley of the shadow of death**, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

Want leads to confusion, and confusion to the hatred of God and love of death—the love to kill love—because God is love. Consider the apostle John’s words:

**1 John 3:14-15** — We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. **Whoever does not love abides in death.** Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

#### **4. True (Cosmic) Love** — \*ultimate, yet intimate\*

God is love (**1 John 4:8**). The Trinity is love—Father, Son, Holy Spirit.

Before the world was, love is. Love is and always will be.

Unlike worldly religions like Islam, where God needs to make creatures in order to love, the one true God, the Holy Trinity, does not need creatures in order to love. God is triune—His divine nature and eternal power is in perfect harmony and loving communion with Himself. God did not need somebody to love when He created us. God did not create us to gain new experiences and feelings. He is not a creature.

This is a very low view of God. If God needs us or depends on us, then He is found wanting. Brothers, this cannot be so—God is perfect. He does not need anyone or anything other than Himself to complete Himself—He lacks nothing.

**But in this mystery, there is something quite profound. Since God needs nothing from us, it means that God had no other reason to make us besides to love us.**

It means that we were created by love, from love, for love — our whole purpose in life, from the sixth day, was to love others like God loves Himself. That is your image! Your nature. Because that's His nature. Want is love without itself.

God is love, and you have to love Love to truly love. To truly want!

**John 3:16** — “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”

World = “cosmos” — God’s Love is what holds the material universe together  
Christ was born so that you may live.

## 5. Why Christ Came

This is why Christ (love) came — to defeat the power of death, to satisfy want.

**Hebrews 2:14-15** — Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

The serpent, Satan, with the power of death, was told his fate early on:

### **Genesis 3:15**

I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
and between your seed and her Seed;  
He shall bruise your head,  
and you shall bruise his heel.”

The Spirit of Christ speaking through the prophet Isaiah repeats this Seed prophecy:

**Isaiah 7:14** – Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel [meaning, “God with us”]

That is why Christ came in the flesh — to satisfy the sincere, the afflicted, to have communion with us.

God has chosen to swaddle our essence in His warm embrace.

That is, to glorify us like His Son, Jesus Christ, at the day of His return.

This is why Christ, fully God, was born a child, fully man, through the virgin Mary.

**To conquer spiritual decay and want in Himself, in His flesh, so that we can, too!**

## 6. Incarnate Church

**The Church is the continuation of the incarnation on earth as it is in heaven,** fulfilled and completed on the Day of consummation when we are fully sanctified and glorified in union with Him forever.

Christ in and through us! The two become one flesh.

God said that the Seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent's head, and the serpent would bruise Christ's heel. What does Paul say about this Seed prophecy?

**Romans 16:20** — “The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.”

You are the body of Christ! Indwelt by His Holy Spirit. Why do this?

To defeat the want within you! (passions, appetites, pleasures)

If want was not defiled by sin, all our wants would want is to have communion with God. Communion with God is the fulfilment of love we lost. It fills the void. It satisfies want. **I shall not want means you are filled by Love and Truth — GOD!**

Love is fellowship, communion, embrace, union, and full intimate experiential knowledge of our Creator, our Heavenly Father, as sons and daughters of God.

God is defeating the power of death and want through love.

**1 John 3:8-10** — Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. **The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.** No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for **God's seed abides in him**; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God. By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

**Death is overcome by everlasting love**

**1 Corinthians 15:55** — “Death is swallowed up in victory.”

## 6. Individualism & Schismania

That is why sins of Discord, Division, Divorce and Dissension are so saddening and grievous — It is the love of death. The inner workings of death couched in our souls. Our desire for death pouring out of our fallen nature.

These sins are two sides of the same coin: Individualism + Schism

- **Individualism** is inward (personal) separation. It is pride, arrogance, being puffed up. It is self-seeking, unloving, selfish, rather than selfless. “Me, myself, and I” ——— “love neighbour as yourself”
- **Schism** is outward (communal) separation, the opposite of love. It divides the body against itself. It atomizes the body into discrete particles (dust) so that the body cannot stand on its own—it is dead. Schism is spiritual divorce. “I’m my own church!”  
Ignores the grace of God and the gifts given to all members in the body.  
**1 Corinthians 12:25-27** — “That there be no division/schism in the body”...  
“Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it”.

As I said before, the church is the continuation of the incarnation of Christ on earth as it is in heaven. **Schism, then, tries to kill the body of Christ and turn it into dust**—a son of Adam, “from dust you are, and dust you shall return”—that is, **individualism**.

**To destroy the love of God which comes with ascension — glorification.**

**The church is the household of God — a divine family! Right now!**

That is why precisely God disciplines those He loves.

He is our FATHER!

## 7. God Disciplines Those He Loves

### Hebrews 12:3-11

Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons?

“My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord,  
nor be weary when reproved by him.

**For the Lord disciplines the one he loves,  
and chastises every son whom he receives.”**

**It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons.** For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

God disciplines those He loves

Jesus Cleanses the Temple: John 2

Communion Agape Meal: 1 Corinthians 11:27-32

**Schismatics** do not persevere or endure, they are easily offended, insatiable, emotionally explosive, they make mountains out of molehills, are not willing to suffer wrong for His names' sake! Individualism and pride get in the way. Schism is want devouring itself. These are the marks of schism. Be wise to recognize them.

They want, want want — me, me, me! But me cannot satisfy want.

Love is swallowed up in want — aimless, wandering wants.

i.e., Korah's rebellion, schismania (tornado)

## 8. What is True Love? — Application

But love never fails. What is love—true divine love?

### **1 Corinthians 13 — The Greatest Gift (NKVJ, ESV)**

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

Love suffers long [it is patient] and it is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up [or arrogant]; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, [not irritable or resentful], thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity [or wrongdoing], but rejoices in the truth; **[Love] bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.**

**Love never fails [unto love everlasting].** But whether there are prophecies, they will pass away; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.

When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought [reasoned] as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.

And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

True Love, fulfilled vertically and horizontally, defeats death. — \*sign of the cross\*

Christ came to conquer the death and devil in us and through us.

Our salvation in Christ is “faith working through love” (**Galatians 5:6**).

**The love of God is the fulfilment of all want.**

## **Application:**

Since God indwells you, and you are His body, Christ was born in the flesh so that you could be like Him, you have true communion love in Christ with your Heavenly Father — therefore:

**1. Pray** — Embrace His love personally.

Not petitioning / supplication. Prayer is more than asking for things.

prayer is communion with God, His love “Abba ! Father!”

In full submission, humility, and reverence for the Lord. Pure rest in Him.

**2. Fellowship** — Embrace His love corporately.

I want you to stop coming to church. I want you to start being the church

Perhaps you don't feel like going to Church on Sunday.

Perhaps you don't want to pray.

WHY NOT?!

AND WHY?!

Is the want you have sin or is it partaking in the divine nature?

What is want for?

WHY WANT?!

**Be like Christ. Love God, Love man.**

## 9. Conclusion

I asked you earlier: Why do you exist? Why were you born?

**Because He loves you.**

**That's it.** The essence of your existence is love.

Pure love. No ulterior motive.

You were not a cosmic accident. God loved you into being.

You were made in the image of love, from love, to love, to be loved.

The spiritual battles we face and the sins in our life are actually schemes to destroy the love within you — the image you bear, the child of God born again in the image of His Son.

If you are never satisfied, if you are always looking for the next new thing, if you desperately hunger to fill that void within you, that emptiness, sorrow, then put all your wants in Him, and He will comfort and satisfy you completely, now and forever.

Your want will transform into inexpressible, inseparable, and everlasting love.

**Romans 8:38-39** — For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### **Call The Elders — James 5:13-16**

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

### **Benediction — 2 Corinthians 13:14**

Now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ  
and the love of God the Father  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all this week.

***Merry Christmas!***

Go in peace.