

Sacrifice and Love

Christ's Loving Sacrifice on the Cross

*It will be seen that the glory shining in the face of Jesus is the glory of self-sacrificing love. In the light from Calvary it will be seen that the law of self-renouncing love is the law of life for earth and heaven; that the love which "seeketh not her own" has its source in the heart of God; and that in the meek and lowly One is manifested the character of Him who dwelleth in the light which no man can approach unto (White, *Desire of Ages* 19).*

The theme of redemption will employ the minds and tongues of the redeemed through everlasting ages. The reflection of the glory of God will shine forth forever and ever from the Savior's face (White, *Reflecting Christ* 39).

Christ's Loving Authority

(When Lucifer was convincing half of the angels to submit to him and not Christ's leadership) the angels set forth that Christ was the Son of God and that He had ever stood at the right hand of God. *His [Christ's] MILD, LOVING AUTHORITY* had not heretofore been questioned; and that He had given no commands but what it was joy for the heavenly host to execute (White, *Story of Redemption* 15) Note: A good model of how Christ, the One in charge, was perceived.

Never more would these unhappy beings [angels] be swayed by the *MILD RULE of Jesus Christ*. Never more would their spirits be stirred by the deep earnest love (White, *The Story of Redemption* 26).

Christ: A Model of Love

Taking humanity upon Him, Christ came to be one with humanity, and at the same time to reveal our heavenly Father to sinful human beings. He who had been in the presence of the Father from the beginning, He who was the express image of the invisible God, was alone able to reveal the character of the Deity to mankind. He was in all things made like unto His brethren. He became flesh even as we are. He was hungry and thirsty and weary. He was sustained by food and refreshed by sleep. He shared the lot of men; yet He was the blameless Son of God . . . *Tender, compassionate, sympathetic, ever considerate of others, He represented the character of God, and was constantly engaged in service for God and man (White, *The Ministry of Healing* 418-423)*

Ten Things About God's Love For You

1. God loves you infinitely and unconditionally.
2. God has a master plan for all of creation, and you are a part of it. The plan is unfolding bit-by-bit, even today.
3. God has a blueprint for your life, which is also unfolding according to His timetable and His methods. A part of that purpose is unfolding today.
4. God still has more for you to be—He still is working in your life to transform you into the full likeness of Jesus Christ. Today is a day in which God is going to refine you yet a little more and bring you a little closer to His perfection for you.
5. God has more that He desires to communicate to you *about Himself, about yourself, and about His purpose for your life*. He has something new to teach you each day.
6. God has more for you to do in loving outreach to others. God has needs for you to meet in the lives of other people, needs that only you are fully qualified and capable of meeting. *He will bring specific people with specific needs across your path today.*
7. *God believes in you and in the potential He built into you, and He is working in your life—even today— to bring you to a place of great meaning, purpose and fulfillment.*
8. God has promises of blessings that you haven't yet experienced , but that are on the way to you. Even now!
9. God is *available to you* and *accepting of you* every second of every day. He is your ever-present help, your, "always and forever" Source of love and grace.
10. God desires to *manifest Himself to you* and *live in you TODAY*. He is your hope. Anchor your soul in Him, and no storm can defeat you.

-- By Charles Stanley