

Chapter 22

All You Need Is Love

BIBLE

John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching the baptism of repentance for forgiveness of sins.¹

Seeing the multitudes, he went up onto the mountain. When he had sat down, his disciples came to him.²

He opened his mouth and taught them, saying,³ “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.”⁴ This commandment we have from him, that he who loves God should also love his brother.⁵

“I exhort therefore, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercessions, and givings of thanks, be made for all men.”⁶

“Bless those who curse you, and pray for those who mistreat you.”⁷ That which makes a man to be desired is his kindness. A poor man is better than a liar.⁸

“And forgive your people who have sinned against you, and all their transgressions in which they have transgressed against you; and give them compassion before those who carried them captive, that they may have compassion on them.”⁹

COMMENTARY

¹ **Mark 1:4** Through his music and philosophy, John’s message was to “repent”: to change our mind and let the power of love, the power of God, work on our behalf. When we “sin” we separate ourselves from that power, but when we realign ourselves in consciousness, our sin is forgiven. The separation is over.

² **Matthew 5:1**

³ **Matthew 5:2**

⁴ **1 Corinthians 16:23**

⁵ **1 John 4:21** Victor Hugo: “To love another person is to see the face of God.”

⁶ **1 Timothy 2:1** George, on “All You Need Is Love: “It’s a subtle bit of PR for God.”

⁷ **Luke 6:28** Eric Fromm: “Love is the only sane and satisfactory answer to the problem of human existence.”

⁸ **Proverbs 19:22** Barbara de Angelis: “Love and kindness are never wasted. They always make a difference. They bless the one who receives them, and they bless you, the giver.”

⁹ **1 Kings 8:50** Reinhold Niebuhr: “Forgiveness is the final form of love.”

“For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.¹⁰ But if you don’t forgive men their trespasses neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.¹¹

“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God, and knows God.¹² For it is God who works in you both to will and to work, for his good pleasure.¹³

“We know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and he who remains in love remains in God, and God remains in him.¹⁴

“Therefore turn to your God. Keep kindness and justice, and wait continually for your God.¹⁵ He who keeps his commandments remains in him, and he in him. By this we know that he remains in us, by the Spirit which he gave us.¹⁶

“All the paths of Yahweh are loving kindness and truth to such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.¹⁷

¹⁰ **Matthew 6:14** When we forgive others, we gain peace of mind, which makes it seem like we are being forgiven by some external force. But everything is happening within our own consciousness.

¹¹ **Matthew 6:15** Alan Cohen: “You have the power to take away someone’s happiness by refusing to forgive. That someone is you.”

¹² **1 John 4:7** “Love is all and love is everyone,” John reminds us in “Tomorrow Never Knows.”

¹³ **Philippians 2:13** When we choose love, we align ourselves with the truth of who we really are. Albert Schweitzer: “Only through love can we obtain communion with God.”

¹⁴ **1 John 4:16** John: “There are two basic motivating forces: fear and love. When we are afraid, we pull back from life. When we are in love, we open to all that life has to offer with passion, excitement, and acceptance. We need to learn to love ourselves first, in all our glory and our imperfections. If we cannot love ourselves, we cannot fully open to our ability to love others or our potential to create.”

¹⁵ **Hosea 12:6** In “If I Fell” John has found out that “love was more than just holding hands.”

¹⁶ **1 John 3:24**

¹⁷ **Psalms 25:10** John, from his 1973 solo hit “Mind Games”: “Love is a flower. You got to let it, you gotta let it grow.”

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first commandment.¹⁸ The second is like this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these.¹⁹

“Yes, and for this very cause adding on your part all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence; and in moral excellence, knowledge;²⁰ and in knowledge, self-control; and in self-control patience; and in patience godliness;²¹ and in godliness brotherly affection; and in brotherly affection, love.²²

“Love is patient and is kind; love doesn't envy. Love doesn't brag, is not proud,²³ doesn't behave itself inappropriately, doesn't seek its own way, is not provoked, takes no account of evil.²⁴

“There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear has punishment. He who fears is not made perfect in love.²⁵

"Yes, you do away with fear, and hinder devotion before God.²⁶ For God didn't give us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-control.”²⁷

¹⁸ **Mark 12:30** God is love and God is also life itself. When we love life itself with all our heart, mind and soul, we are filled with gratitude and lifted up in consciousness.

¹⁹ **Mark 12:31** John: “It matters not who you love, where you love, why you love, when you love or how you love, it matters only that you love.”

²⁰ **2 Peter 1:5** Rumi: “Let yourself be silently drawn by the strange pull of what you really love. It will not lead you astray.”

²¹ **2 Peter 1:6** Smiley Blanton: “Love is the immortal flow of energy that nourishes, extends and preserves. Its eternal goal is life.”

²² **2 Peter 1:7** “I know I'll never lose affection,” John affirms in “In My Life.”

²³ **1 Corinthians 13:4** “Have you heard, the word is love” John asks in “The Word.”

²⁴ **1 Corinthians 13:5** In “Don't Let Me Down,” John describes an unconditional love that keeps no account, “a love that has no past.”

²⁵ **1 John 4:18** “No need to be afraid, it's real love” John observes in “Real Love,” one of the Beatles “reunion” songs from 1995.

²⁶ **Job 15:4**

²⁷ **2 Timothy 1:7** In “All You Need Is Love,” John reminds us that when we choose love over fear, “there's nothing you can sing that can't be sung.”

He said to them, “It isn’t for you to know times or seasons which the Father has set within his own authority.²⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you. You will be witnesses to me in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the uttermost parts of the earth.”²⁹

“It has seemed good to me to show the signs and wonders that the Most High God has worked toward me.³⁰ Such confidence we have through Christ toward God.”³¹

“I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me.”³²

“Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruning hooks into spears. Let the weak say, ‘I am strong.’³³ God said to Moses, ‘I AM WHO I AM,’ and he said, ‘You shall tell the children of Israel this: I AM has sent me to you.’³⁴

“You shall not take the name of Yahweh your God in vain, for Yahweh will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.”³⁵

²⁸ **Acts 1:7** [*“He” is John*]

²⁹ **Acts 1:8** With the power of God’s love, “there’s nothing you can see that isn’t shown,” John tells us in “All You Need Is Love.”

³⁰ **Daniel 4:2** With the power of God’s love, “there’s nothing you can know that isn’t known.” (“All You Need Is Love”)

³¹ **2 Corinthians 3:3** Christ is the Kingdom of God in each of us.

³² **Philippians 4:13** When we are in alignment with the Christ, “there’s nothing you can do that can’t be done.” (“All You Need Is Love”)

³³ **Joel 3:10** “I am” is the ancient name of God as revealed to Moses. Thus, positive “I am” statements are affirmations that align us with Source. When we say “I am strong,” for instance, we are also saying “*God within me* is strong.”

³⁴ **Exodus 3:14** “I am” is also the best description of who we really are, pure consciousness. “I am” is the first person tense of “to be,” so when I simply “be”, “I am.” We are human beings, not “human doings.” In “All You Need Is Love,” John reminds us of this: “There’s nothing you can *do* but you can learn how to *be* in time.”

³⁵ **Exodus 20:7** We take the name of God in vain when we use “I am” in a negative way, such as saying “I am sick” or “I am poor.”

“This is the boldness which we have toward him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he listens to us.³⁶ He gives power to the weak. He increases the strength of him who has no might.³⁷

“It will be that whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved.³⁸ All flesh will see God's salvation.³⁹ For there is no partiality with God.⁴⁰

“But I tell you who hear: love your enemies, do good to those who hate you.⁴¹ Bless those who persecute you; bless, and don't curse.⁴²

“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.⁴³

³⁶ **1 John 5:14** God is love, so when we choose love, we lift ourselves up into the Divine flow of energy. “There's nothing you can make that can't be made,” John tells us in “All You Need Is Love.”

³⁷ **Isaiah 40:29**

³⁸ **Acts 2:21** In “All You Need Is Love,” “there's no one you can save that can't be saved.”

³⁹ **Luke 3:6** Pierre Teilhard de Chardin: “Someday, after mastering the winds, the waves, the tides and gravity, we shall harness for God the energies of love, and then, for a second time in the history of the world, man will have discovered fire.”

⁴⁰ **Romans 2:11** Buckminster Fuller: “Love is metaphysical gravity.”

⁴¹ **Luke 6:27** Maya Angelou: “Hate- It has caused a lot of problems in this world, but it has not solved one yet.”

⁴² **Romans 12:14** Joyce Meyer: “Loving others always costs us something and requires effort. And you have to decide to do it on purpose. You can't wait for a feeling to motivate you.”

⁴³ **Luke 6:32** Stephen Covey, *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*: “Proactive people make love a verb. Love is something you do: the sacrifices you make, the giving of self...Love - the feeling – is a fruit of love, the verb.”

“If a man says, ‘I love God,’ and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who doesn’t love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?”⁴⁴

“For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. His commandments are not grievous.⁴⁵ This is how we know that we know him: if we keep his commandments.”⁴⁶

“My little children, let's not love in word only, neither with the tongue only, but in deed and truth.”⁴⁷ Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good works.⁴⁸

“I command these things to you, that you may love one another.”⁴⁹ May the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patience of Christ.⁵⁰ Grace be with you all. Amen.”⁵¹

⁴⁴ **1 John 4:20** “In my life I’ll love you more,” John shares in “In My Life.”

⁴⁵ **1 John 5:3** Albert Einstein: “Love is a better teacher than duty.”

⁴⁶ **1 John 2:3** Mother Teresa: “Spread love everywhere you go. Let nobody ever come to you without leaving happier.”

⁴⁷ **1 John 3:18** The Dalai Lama: “All major religious traditions carry basically the same message, that is love, compassion and forgiveness ... the important thing is they should be part of our daily lives.”

⁴⁸ **Hebrews 10:24** The Beatles performed “All You Need Is Love” live via satellite in 1967 on the first worldwide television program ever.

⁴⁹ **John 15:17** Krishnamurti: “The moment you have in your heart this extraordinary thing called love and feel the depth, the delight, the ecstasy of it, you will discover that for you the world is transformed.”

⁵⁰ **2 Thessalonians 3:5** Emmet Fox: “If you could only love enough, you could be the most powerful person in the world.”

⁵¹ **Hebrews 13:25** The word “love” appears 613* times in the Beatles songbook, more often than any other word except for these seven common parts of speech: “you”, “I”, “the”, “to”, “me”, “and” and “a”. (*This includes cover songs as well as songs they recorded that were not released until after they broke up.)