

Christ loves us. By such a form of virtuous love our lives can be brought into accord with what God expects and demands of us. Only such a love can put us in tune with Jesus in such a way that we can abide in His Presence while yet dwelling in this corrupting world. The only proof that we possess a love that is Christian is when we factually replicate the love Jesus has shown us. And, it is solely by that species of love that we can attain God's approval.

There is no greater commitment to Jesus than to imitate the love He shows mankind. Such "Christ-like" love will be our principal favorable character witness on the Day of Judgment. Our Christ-actions will measure the quality of our Christian life and demonstrate that our existence does have a clearly committed purpose.

What we "Jesus-ly" accomplish during our short stay on earth will wipe out our fears and make us happily face the "Great Day" of final accounting!

I declare this emphatically: It is only the fact we have lived by Jesus' standard that our passing from earth will be a boundless joy. After the removal of our bodily veil we will gaze on the Face of a Loving Eternal Father for the first time. Those who gather about us in our last moments will not hear from us any word of regret over our shortness of life, nor any plea to extend our time in order to conduct unfinished business. When the Lord comes to lead us home, leaving this earthly vale of tears will not then be a difficult or fearful passage, but a looking forward to a gracious reception and the Lord's hearty welcome.