

Godly Wisdom

There once lived a man who wanted to know the truth so he embarked on a quest for knowledge and truth as he traveled around the world talking to very influential people,

Then one day he was invited to go and visit a very wise old Monk who lived high up in the Himalayan Mountains. The man jumped at the chance to acquire great wisdom and insight that concern the mysteries of life.

Upon arrival at the base of the mountain two guides were there waiting to escort the man to the Monastery located at the top of the mountain. The Monastery was protected by an army of guards surrounded by a great wall with a huge door. The man was led blindfolded and was told to sit down and wait.

Then the blindfold was removed and a secret door opened and in walked a very old and wise Monk with Chaplain Paul who had gone into seclusion some many years earlier. The three men sat for a few moments and then the wise Monk looked at the man and said.

"What 3 questions would you like to ask us?" The man asked

"Why is there suffering in the world?"

Chaplain Paul looked at the man and answered,

"There are many reasons for suffering one of which is, without suffering there can be no compassion and without compassion there can be no true love here on earth. Love is a byproduct of compassion."

The man smiled and said, "Now I see."

Then the man asked the wise old Monk his second question,

"What is the meaning of life?"

The wise old man smiled and said, "To love and to be loved."

The man nodded his head yes, Then the man asked his third and final question,

"What holds the solution to the problems of mankind?"

The wise old Monk and Chaplain Paul looked at each other smiled and said,

"Love holds the answer to every question and the solution to every problem for God is love and he who abides in love abides in God and God in him."

John 14:27 Peace be with you.

1 John 4:7-21 God Is Love

7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. 16 So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. 17 By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world.

18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot[a] love God whom he has not seen. 21 And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

1 Corinthians 13

New International Version

¹ If I speak in the tongues^[a] of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast,^[b] but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

⁸ Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. ¹¹ When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. ¹² For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

¹³ And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

This story beautifully encapsulates the profound truths about love, suffering, and the divine nature of God. Through the journey of the seeker, the essence of life and the resolution to humanity's struggles are revealed in a simple yet transformative truth: **Love**.

Key Lessons from the Story:

1. Suffering and Compassion

Chaplain Paul's response underscores that suffering has a purpose—it allows for the birth of compassion. Compassion, in turn, nurtures love, making it a cornerstone of human experience. Without suffering, we might never fully understand or express true empathy.

2. The Meaning of Life

The wise monk's answer, "To love and to be loved," aligns perfectly with God's greatest commandment. It reflects the truth that love is not only the purpose of existence but also the foundation of all relationships and connections.

3. **The Solution to Humanity's Problems**

The joint statement by the monk and Chaplain Paul highlights the ultimate truth that love is the answer to all human dilemmas. Rooted in the scriptures, it reminds us that God is love (1 John 4:8), and abiding in love means abiding in God.

4. **Scriptural Validation**

The passage from 1 John 4:7-21 ties the narrative to biblical teachings, emphasizing that love is divine. It is through love that God revealed Himself by sending His Son to save us. This divine love compels us to love one another, casting out fear and hatred.

5. **The Power of Love**

The repeated affirmation that "God is love" provides a spiritual anchor. Love, being the essence of God, transcends fear, heals wounds, and unites humanity in its purest form.

This story invites readers to reflect on their own lives and challenges them to embody love in their actions, thoughts, and relationships. It is a testament to the transformative power of living in God's love and sharing it freely with others. **Peace be with you.** 🌿

