

# God is Love

## Some Quotations

*This is all that I've known for certain, that God is love. Even if I have been mistaken on this or that point: God is nevertheless love.*

Soren Kierkegaard

*God is love, and the ability to love is inborn in every living creature, most especially in human beings.*

Sadhu Sundar Singh

*In loving and serving, we prove that we have been created in the likeness of God, for God is love and when we love we are like God.*

Mother Teresa

*God alone is love itself, because he is life itself. Both we on earth and angels are life-receivers.*

Emanuel Swedenborg

*Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.*

1 John 4:7-8



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## God is Love

“God is Love” is a common religious expression but in what way can we really say that “God **IS** Love”?

One thing that people from all sorts of religious traditions would say is that God loves us. Different traditions might have different ways of describing God or the Divine but the message that God loves us is common to all. We might then go on and describe God’s love as an unconditional love that has no limits and no boundaries and is shared equally with all. Such thinking brings us to see that God is a ‘loving’ God but is this the same as saying that “God is Love”? Well in a way the simple answer is yes, but we need to explore why this is so.

Think for a moment about an everyday situation which illustrates this problem. We know that we can get money from the bank because money is stored there. We might even say that “the bank is made of money”, but we know full well that the bank isn’t money.

Now we could easily view God just like that. We know we can get love from God, indeed we might even say that “God is made of love” but we stop short of believing that God **is** love because it doesn’t seem to make any real sense to us.

One way to try and move forward and make sense of this is to look at ourselves. If we are made in the image and likeness of God then it should be possible to see within ourselves something of the nature of God although what we see will be a very dim and limited reflection of the infinite Divine nature.

We love all sorts of things – partners, family, friends, hobbies, possessions and much more. But what tends to happen is that what we love the most becomes most important in our life to the point where our lives revolve about what we love most.

Suppose we love the pursuit of wealth and its resulting possessions to the exclusion of all else. Gradually our whole life becomes totally absorbed by a focus on how to make money and yet more money. Money has become our whole purpose in living – it has become our life.

By contrast we may make our family the focus of our love. Supporting and caring for our family then becomes the whole purpose in living – it has become our life.

We can see from these two examples that our love tends to show itself in the way we live, so much so, that we can describe our life in terms of what we love, indeed our life becomes our love and our love is our life. In our deepest and inmost being life and love are one and the same thing.

If it can be said of our human nature that love is our life then this ‘likeness’ of God in us must first exist fully and perfectly in the Divine Itself. Thus we can begin to see that the Life that is God is Love. Now although it appears otherwise, we really have no life or love in ourselves. What we call our life and our love really come from God because God alone is the source of all life and all love. In God, Life Itself and Love Itself are one and the same thing.

**God is Love because God is Life.**

