

## The Love of Yeshua

### OHO 1.6.18

- I. **Intro:** I taught in July 2017 and in September 2014 ...but different info this time. Makes me appreciate Shmuel. Every week for 20+ years. 1000 messages. This is God's Love, Part 3. Worth 3 installments, right?
- II. **Apologetics great.** Yeshua offered apologetics in His teachings as He reasoned with those outside the faith. We need to chip away at the veil with reason and prayer.

A. Theology: pre trib, post trib, young earth old earth, etc. Fascinating topics.

B. But I want to focus on the major. Yeshua is LORD and I LOVE Him and HE LOVES ME!!!

1. I am valuable to Him...**and you are valuable to Him.**
2. He likes what He sees in me...**and what He sees in you.**
3. He pursued me when my mind and heart was far far away and still does...**And pursues you daily as well.**
4. I am married to the Creator of the universe... **and so are you.** Let that sink it. The wedding Feast referred to in this week's reading on Mt 22
5. I am a joy to Him...**and so are you.** We are happily married.
6. I am not in full time ministry... **but in the words of Todd White, I can be in full time commitment and committment to Him in EVERYTHING I do.** We tend to share when our spouse or kids do something great. **SHARE HIM!** Share about what He has done for you when you sense a divine appointment. Keep it brief! I recommend starting with a few short blurbs so see if you have their interest and sensed it was a divine moment. Then 3 minutes max without "giving it a break."
7. He created the magnificent universe for my pleasure...**and yours** (show 8 slides ending with newborns) God's **quilt, needlepoint, handiwork, gift just for you and me:**

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### III. HE IS A BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATER.

- A. Bridge Over Troubled Water is a gospel phrase which Paul Simon took from a gospel group. It was in a Baptist church hymn--- Swan Silvertones.
- B. Spring 1969: Bobby Kennedy and Martin Luther King were gone – assassinated. Racial tensions were erupting across the US. The war was raging in Vietnam. And Richard Nixon was in the White House.
- C. Then there was one song where the lead singer was improvising, and he shouted out: 'I'll be your bridge over deep water/**If you trust in my name.**' He liked the phrase and he used it." Inspired by the Holy Spirit.  
<http://teamrock.com/feature/2016-11-05/story-behind-the-song-bridge-over-troubled-water-by-simon-garfunkel>
- D. Paul Simon listened to this song all the time.
- E. The song, which reached Number 1 in 1970, was written by Paul Simon, but it was Art Garfunkel who sang lead vocal so brilliantly.

F. 4 slides: Image of Swan Silvertones, then Bridge Over Troubled Waters cover, then Simon & Garfunkel, then Swan Silvertones original lyric/S&G lyric

**G. Such a picture of our Messiah:**

When you're weary, feeling small

When tears are in your eyes, I'll dry them all (all)

I'm on your side, oh, when times get rough

And friends just can't be found

Like a bridge over troubled water

I will lay me down

Like a bridge over troubled water

I will lay me down

When you're down and out

When you're on the street

When evening falls so hard

I will comfort you (ooo)

I'll take your part, oh, when darkness comes

And pain is all around

Like a bridge over troubled water

I will lay me down

Like a bridge over troubled water

I will lay me down

H. [https://www.google.com/search?q=picture+of+swan+silvertones+gospel+group+and+simon+and+garfunkel+in+1970&rlz=1C1LENP\\_enUS567US567&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=GA\\_3uIIQIG5MyM%253A%252CqQU7DBD](https://www.google.com/search?q=picture+of+swan+silvertones+gospel+group+and+simon+and+garfunkel+in+1970&rlz=1C1LENP_enUS567US567&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=GA_3uIIQIG5MyM%253A%252CqQU7DBD)

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- I. [https://www.google.com/search?q=picture+of+swan+silvertones+gospel+group+and+simon+and+garfunkel+in+1970&rlz=1C1LENP\\_enUS567US567&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=GA\\_3uIIQIG5MyM%253A%252CqQU7DBD](https://www.google.com/search?q=picture+of+swan+silvertones+gospel+group+and+simon+and+garfunkel+in+1970&rlz=1C1LENP_enUS567US567&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=GA_3uIIQIG5MyM%253A%252CqQU7DBD)  
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- J. [https://www.google.com/search?q=picture+of+swan+silvertones+gospel+group+and+simon+and+garfunkel+in+1970&rlz=1C1LENP\\_enUS567US567&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=GA\\_3uIIQIG5MyM%253A%252CqQU7DBD](https://www.google.com/search?q=picture+of+swan+silvertones+gospel+group+and+simon+and+garfunkel+in+1970&rlz=1C1LENP_enUS567US567&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=GA_3uIIQIG5MyM%253A%252CqQU7DBD)  
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- K. Have heard Paul Simon, a Jewish legend, is a Believer. **He sang about Jesus in Israel.**

- L. Paul Simon Jan 9, 2012 - "For somebody who's not a religious person, God comes up a lot in my songs.

- M. Slide of album cover to So Beautiful or So What: 2011

<http://www.paulsimon.com/music/so-beautiful-or-so-what/>

- N. Paul McCartney, upon hearing some of the new album, said to Simon, "Aren't you a Jew? How come you're singing about Christmas and Jesus, and that sort of stuff?"

**O. Check out some of the song titles:**

1. "Getting Ready For Christmas Day"
2. "The Afterlife"
3. "Love Is Eternal Sacred Light"
4. "Questions For The Angels"
5. "Love And Blessings"
6. "So Beautiful or So What"

- P. Lyrics to a song he wrote:

God and his only Son

paid a courtesy call

on Earth one Sunday morning.

Orange blossoms opened

their fragrant lips,

Songbirds sang

from the tips of Cottonwoods,

Old folks wept for his love in these hard times

**Q. Why did I bring this up?**

- 1. Because I am a big Paul Simon fan.**
- 2. And just to illustrate how wholeheartedly God PURSUES US even when we may not be seeking him.**
- 3. He speaks to the lost in unimaginable ways.**
- 4. Holy Spirit gave gospel group and Paul Simon the words.**
- 5. To give you faith for the salvation of your loved ones.**
- 6. He will be a bridge over troubled water and lay Himself down for you.**

**IV. GUILT, SHAME, CONDEMNATION, AND REJECTION.**

- A. If you are afflicted with guilt, shame, condemnation, and/or rejection and going through a tough time with others and yourself, **no worries.**
- B. Yeshua loves you and you will spend all eternity with Him and he is the great comforter for you right now.
- C. May He wipe away your “tears in your eyes.” One day all will be restored ...in His perfect time and in His perfect way.
- D. Not necessarily our way.
- E. “Rejoice always” I say rejoice. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Messiah Yeshua.
- F. Who wants to overflow with his love? (1 Thes 3:12)

- G. You know Him, can run to Him, talk with Him, and walk with Him. It doesn't get any better than that.
- H. Hardships and pain make us who we are:
  1. **Ravi**: mom allowing Doc to give **a shot**. If it's a friend going through a difficult time maybe just be there for them.
  2. Like **Ravi getting turned when he had back surgery with rods and they thought it was his hip**. If we don't know the pain and discomfort someone else and we can mean well but worsen the pain.
  3. **The law is the diagnosis; Grace is the medicine. Yeshua is the doctor.** (Gal. 3:19-24; Asher Intrater, Alignment, p.117)
- I. Colossians 1:17 comes to mind. "in him all things HOLD TOGETHER."

#### V. **Some of the Characteristics of Yeshua's love**

A. **Humility** (love cause "He humbled Himself—becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross." Phil 2:8) When He humbled Himself, he actually elevated Himself. Love elevates others, not ourselves.

B. **Sacrifice** (let's meditate on the depth of His sacrifice)

1. I tend to think far far less that I do is a sacrifice.

2. **Result of His sacrifice**: "But He has reconciled you in Messiah's physical body through death, in order to present you holy, spotless, and blameless in His eyes." Col 1:12)

C. **Kindness** (He who has no sin cast the first stone-John 8:7-; meets each us each where we are.)

1. Such a loving picture of forgiveness, unconditional love, and acceptance.

D. **Forgiveness** He forgave me. He forgave the thieves on a cross. He forgave his torturers and executioners. (Forgive them Father, they know not what they do.)

E. **Patience** (He patiently waits for each of us to turn to Him.)

1. Prodigal son example (Alongi Trust Fund movie)

2. My life: not seeking and He drew me and drew me and drew me

3. Now I have a circumcised heart (pericardium). Heart is symbolic of love. That is why hearts are circumcised IMHO. We love Him. Picture of it:

[https://www.google.com/search?q=pericardium+picture&rlz=1C1LENP\\_enUS567US567&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=K0a-rodjDVUe3M%253A%252CtmY8KZGyudijJM%252C\\_&usg=\\_\\_5l2ySM1b0CQTynO2t0cGM1ovPPc%3D&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiRxYXkx7fYAhVk5oMKHcvYCBEQ9QEILTAB#imgsrc=K0a-rodjDVUe3M:](https://www.google.com/search?q=pericardium+picture&rlz=1C1LENP_enUS567US567&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=K0a-rodjDVUe3M%253A%252CtmY8KZGyudijJM%252C_&usg=__5l2ySM1b0CQTynO2t0cGM1ovPPc%3D&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiRxYXkx7fYAhVk5oMKHcvYCBEQ9QEILTAB#imgsrc=K0a-rodjDVUe3M:)

- VI. **So Stand Firm** Phil 4:1, 4:4, 4:7. You are standing with the only one who can bring peace on earth, peace in the Mideast, etc.
- A. LIGHT and LOVE both radically transform our view of the world. Yeshua (Jesus) emanates both! (I think it was Ty at Mark Weber Memorial Service)
- B. Paul and other disciples: Steadfast love despite torture, imprisonment, and death?
- C. **Mt 23:39** I say it virtually every time I do announcements. Why? Cause I want Yeshua to return. I want His love to be felt by ALL! I want everyone to have what I lived without for 39 years and have lived with for 25 years...and my love grows deeper every year.
- D. Francis Chan, Rev 5:8, prayers participating in glorious scene in heaven Rev 4 & 5 (Rev 5:8 When He had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, **each one holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.**)
- E. Our faith is not religious rituals but rather a love offering back to God (a gift that fills incense bowls in heaven --a heartfelt thank you note. A gift we bring when we are grateful for being invited into someone's home.
- F. He changes water into wine as he did at the wedding for his first miracle. And he has prepared a wedding feast for all of us that we are ALL free to partake in.

VII. **Yeshua answered that these are the 2 greatest commandments (slide)**

- A. Love God with all of your heart, soul and strength (Mt 22:37-49--in this week's reading)

- B. Love your neighbor as yourself. Deut 6:5, 2nd Lev 19:19. Can't do that without God
- C. 3<sup>rd</sup> perhaps Mt 5:44, "love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you," -which He did when He said forgive them Father, they know not what they do.

**VIII. What others have said about God's love:**

- A. Corrie ten Boom still exclaims, "There is no pit so deep that God's love is not deeper still."
- B. Rabbi Isaac Lichtenstein, a chief rabbi of Hungary who led Jewish congregations for 40 years before reading the New Covenant for the first time. After reading it, he became a passionate follower of Yeshua. He also notes how mistaken he had been and acknowledges:

I had thought the **New Testament** to be impure, a source of pride, of hatred, and of the worst kind of violence, but as I opened it, I felt myself peculiarly and wonderfully taken possession of by a sudden glory, a light flashed through my soul. I looked for thorns, and gathered roses, I discovered pearls instead of pebbles; instead of hatred, LOVE; instead of vengeance, forgiveness; instead of bondage, freedom; instead of pride, humility; instead of enmity, conciliation; instead of death, life, salvation, resurrection, heavenly treasure.

From every line in the **New Testament**, from every word, the Jewish spirit streamed forth light, life, power, endurance, faith, hope, **love**, charity, limitless and indestructible faith in God.

**IX. Conclusion:**

- A. Who will separate us from the love of the Messiah Yeshua? Troubled waters; tears in your eyes? Hardship? Persecution? Hunger? Poverty? Danger? War? No, in all these things we are super conquerors, through the one who has loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor other powers below, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God which comes to us through the **Messiah Yeshua**, our LORD, (Romans 8:35, 37-39).

- B. I have experienced far more peace and love through my personal relationship with Yeshua than I ever imagined was possible. Understanding the grace of God, the depth of the sacrifice of Yeshua, and experiencing the comfort and wisdom imparted through the Holy Spirit (Spirit of God) far exceeds anything this world has to offer. He has laid himself down over the trouble water.
1. Like any relationship, it is an ongoing process. The more diligently we seek and honor Him, the more we learn and receive. As we grow in our relationship with God, our understanding of the fullness of His love likewise grows. Like a marriage.
  2. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God that we can invite to reside in us to be our Comforter and Guide. "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth," (Acts 1:8).
- C. "And who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee," (2 Corinthians 1:22). Invite the Holy Spirit right now. (Pray!)
- D. Wealth, power, and prestige are fleeting, but the love of God is enduring forever.
- E. I have experienced His love and wisdom **daily. (insights during prayer time; some of my best questions come to me during depositions).**

G. I am undone by His wisdom, mercy, and love. I am sure you all can relate to the same blessings.

H. God desires to meet you where you are and fill you with more love and joy than you ever imagined. He has done that for me ...and wants to do the same for you.

I. The God I have come to know and love is not a distant unattached designer and creator. He guides me and comforts me daily in unimaginable ways.

J. Focus on **His life**, not us fallen vessels who have our shortcomings and are not perfect. Only He is perfect. BUT it was the love of Believers that drew me to His love!

K. Among the blessings are a supernatural love and joy that "surpasses human understanding", (Philippians 4:7)

**L. He chose to come to earth, face humiliation and rejection. Laid in a grave by those He came to save, after suffering a brutal and excruciatingly painful death. That's love!**

M. Loves us so much He gave us a free will to accept or reject Him. Sadly, many, like myself, reject Him without even checking out the merits of His claims, and often times due to a spiritual veil--Pray that the veil be removed. **Let's do that right now.**

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This week's readings: Ex: 1:1-6:1; Is: 27:6-28:13, 29:22-23; Mt: 22:1-23.39