

LIVING AND LOVING

By Lucien Siffrid

The two words “loving” and “living” hold the whole mystery of our existence. One is unthinkable without the other. Loving is borne by life – life is experienced only through loving, that is through the effect of pure love whose origin is spiritual, even divine.

However, what has man made of these two lofty concepts? Is it not abuse of the pure concept of “loving” if we use it primarily to describe physical love, even the sex drive, and declare it to be love? And the concept “life” means nothing to us but the function of organs, physical vegetating, eating, drinking indulging in pleasure. To one who digs a little deeper and to the serious seeker, however, the language which is given to us as a gift, as is everything in Creation, reveals to us the true meaning of the two concepts “loving” and “living”.

A third concept is “light” which, like a burning candle, is placed into our life in order to call on our free will to ignite our “life” and make it into “love”, to ignite the pure fire of God-Worship. Already in school every child learns that God alone is Love and Life. To raise our human life to one of God-Worship we must open ourselves to the stream of divine light. We must accept the light into our life which means : to transform living into loving! This occurs through complete adjustment to the incorruptible Laws of God’s magnificent Creation; it is true God-Worship.

Out of love God created the great world in its vibrancy and diversity in which we humans may dwell for the purpose of our development. Thus it is Love that inundates us continuously, that gives us warming sun rays, magical starlight on cloudless nights, aromatic mountain air to give us new life impulses whenever we inhale after consciously exhaling, the splendor of flowers whose beautiful colors, shapes and scents we enjoy, the vast blue ocean, in short: the whole wonderful world - all for us to enjoy.

Since human vocabulary does not have words that even remotely describe the beauties of Nature we have to resort to the two concepts “Love” and “Life” in order to intuitively experience the greatness of the Creator.

Each one of these words forms a channel for recognition, starting with the meaning of the word, “describing” the object named in the word. The “description” paints a picture, thus conveys the concept.

Spiritual recognition occurs exclusively in seeing and receiving images. Images are the language of the spirit. Thus, the miracles of World Creation cannot be described by human words, they can only be experienced in images, just as the love of the Creator, the Truth and the Light of Life can only be experienced in this way.

If even for a single second the eternal stream of Love from God, who is Life, would cease, everything that has been created would wither and die. We humans have put a jarring dissonance into this living love, this loving life. Wherever we turn our glance we see nothing but jealousy, fault-finding, knowing-better, maudlin softness, exaggerated emotions, unhealthy sentimentality. We see the absurd presumption that God’s love forgives everything, which is a completely false interpretation of the teaching of Christ, Son of God.

Jesus Himself spoke the words that express clearly, powerfully and severely the true love for everything created: “Father forgive them for they know not what they do “(Luke 23, 24) With this, the Son of God gave Himself as perfect, pure Love itself. He could not act differently. The reunion with His Father, after departing the earth, was possible only because He left the earth without the smallest speck of dust of hatred or resentment toward ignorant humanity which had nailed Him to the cross. Only because He loved with pure love could He reunite with the Father who is eternal Love.

This unfathomable act of love by Christ of asking His Father to forgive ignorant humanity for the murder, breached the dense wall of Darkness which had descended over the entire earth after the crucifixion. This breach into the wall of Darkness offers mankind the opportunity to redeem the crushing reciprocal effect of the guilt burden of the greatest crime of all time. It is not the death on the cross of the Son of God that absolves us of this crushing burden of guilt - on the contrary: it is the heaviest burden of guilt of all. We can obtain salvation only if we make a new covenant with God, that is if we open ourselves to the Truth, to the light of the Eternal Divine Truth, which teaches us how we must live and what we must do to become worthy of Christ’s Act of Love. With just a little deeper reflection in strict objectivity

the pure logic of the immovable Creation Law of Reciprocal Action as it unrolls in this world-shattering event must become crystal-clear.

Thus, “I love” is a state of the spirit! It does not express a feeling of exuberance, of any emotional or physical affect - or whatever else we on earth simply call “love”. In this spiritual state of “I love” it simply is no longer possible to give in to ignoble impulses; the baser ego that is bound to matter has been shed! The spirit has broken through and taken control; it draws from the eternally streaming love, from the original source. Persons with that level of spiritual maturity, wherever they may go, they will radiate harmony and warmth of soul. They will spread joy and blessings, inspire trust and thereby will be living examples of how to live everyday life as one who has attained to the right state of “I love”.

The word “I love you” or “they love one another” used, or better said abused, millions of times tells us that by its very nature, it finds satisfaction in the ‘you’ or the “other” and must therefore lead to the desire to possess. That, however, has nothing at all to do with the concept of true love. Newspapers, magazines and other writings provide daily examples of what we humans call “love”. “They are in love” instead of “they love one another”, that is one loves an other. In the final analysis everyone seeks in the one he “loves” only the fulfillment of his own desires, his personal happiness, which is why his overt or hidden egoism quite naturally will collide with that of the one he thinks he loves.

It is quite different in the perfect marriage which “is made in Heaven”. The word “marriage” harmonious in itself, shows us that here are two homogeneous souls that find each other for the purpose of complementation. They are meant for one another, that is one for the other. Made in Heaven, realized on earth. The realization on earth must, of course, not be an end in itself, it did not happen for their own sake. The love of the two marriage partners does not find fulfillment in their own complementation, rather the radiation of both souls forms the basis for a higher level of love toward all people who strive for pure love, for the growing love for God. Therein lie immense tasks for marital love as does its justification. In such a marriage it is naturally impossible for any thoughts of infidelity or jealousy to arise since otherwise the union would not be based on mutual complementation and would not have been made in Heaven. In a perfect marriage the rays of true

love join and together rise in joyous gratitude to the original wellspring from where they continually receive power and ever new recognitions.

Thus the expression “I love you” can never encompass the concept of “I love”. “I love” is the deep experience of the sacrifice made out of the unfathomable love of the Creator for mankind by sending His Son. “I love” also is the experience of the crucifixion of Christ Jesus. Finally, “I love” is the experience of the new great loving Divine sacrifice manifesting in the Word of Truth which gives us the opportunity to atone for our immense guilt of having crucified Christ through sending us the Redeemer.

Love surrounds us every hour, we accept it as our natural due, as what is owed us. Whereas it is Love alone that allows us even to exist!

Unrecognized by us, we all carry within ourselves the dangerous germ of bound love. To thoroughly eradicate it requires total self-conquest! However, this battle against ourselves must not lead to rigid, frantic self-control which would be demoralizing and unnatural and would set us back instead of helping us advance. Fear of this new catastrophe exists until the state of self-control has become permanent and natural. We have reached this condition when we consistently swing in joyfulness, when joy oozes out of us, when we are joy itself as it were. Love is the key which, through conquest of the base ego, opens the direct connection with the pure currents of Love from the original source. This connection, this re-connection (re-ligio), is Life, our life, which leads us through loving to experiencing.

Therefore, there is only one religion – the religion of Love.