





From the desk of your friend in Christ Jesus,





a container lacking LOVE.

Celebrate God loving you.

"There is no FEAR in love; but perfect love casts out FEAR, because FEAR involves punishment, and the one who FEARS is not perfected in love."

(1Jn 4:18 NAS77 emphasis mine)



LIGHT BRIGHTENS THE FEARFUL,

LOVE is the light of the world.

How interesting, I have never heard a debate concerning the universality of the experience we call FEAR. Everyone, at one time or another has experienced FEAR. Some are so plagued by it that it defines their very personality. Well face it, several social instruments, like hanging, have been cultivated to instill FEAR to control behavior.

Even so, I have not heard the end to the debate of what can universally abate FEAR. It would seem to be a no-brainer that the opposite of FEAR would appease it, but what is the Christian universal antidote to FEAR? Love.

Instantly, the question arrises, 'If the answer is love, where and how can I get it?'.

Well, that's the Christian secret to a happy life. We no more have to work at gaining love than we had to work at gaining FEAR. We were born swimming in FEAR biting at our heals, especially the FEAR of the unknown. Equally, we were born with the ability to know God IS love and that He has given us that love without measure. When? Since before the beginning. Yes, as far as God was concerned you were loved way back then, even though you did not exist.

That love has always been His Son. In history, He took time to invade a single body, let that one remove all guilt and shame. Then, He raised that same body for us to inhabit. In His removing our FEAR of further judgement, we can consume His love. The cross, crossed out FEAR.

But we who trust Christ can still find ourselves FEARing. Why? Because, for whatever reason, at



any given moment, we are not trusting His Son, Jesus the Christ. We believe a lie which says, "God, knowing my heart must hate me. Well, I hate myself."

"Jesus answered and said to him, 'If anyone **loves Me**, he will keep My word; and My **Father will love him**, and We will come to him, and **make Our abode with him**." (John 14:23 NAS77 emphasis mine)

Some may say, "See! We have to love Him first!" NO, no, a thousand times no. What is love, but unconditionally accepting someone? If you cannot unconditionally trust the Son who is the embodiment of LOVE you don't want love to rule your heart. Simple as that. Abiding in the Son is abiding in love. Keeping His WORD is keeping His son. Accept love and you receive God. To love God is to receive God just as He is. Because of this, you can receive His accepting you just as you are, right this second. FEAR is all over you when you think a further judgement awaits you. LOVE is in when you know that judgement was taken care of by Jesus. You can trust what He did. What did He do? He put an end to FEAR.

## You have no right to FEAR!