

What gives life to man?

The human being is the masterpiece of God's creation, the final piece of the Genesis puzzle, but this work of art is not just an arbitrary, lifeless object that the author signs and hangs on a wall; on the contrary, this work of art was created in the image and likeness of God. As incredible as it sounds, the human being has the breath and life of God.

In a burst of sincerity, I wonder, what gives life to man? Obviously, God is the one who gives life to man, and he is sovereign in giving and taking life. Scripture says that all our days are numbered. But what is the driving force of man? What makes us get up every day and go out and do our activities? That impulse we have not only to be, but also to do?

"And behold," a man came up to him, saying, "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?" And he said to him, "Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments." He said to him, "Which ones?" And Jesus said, "You shall not murder, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The young man said to him, "All these I have kept. What do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."

When the young man heard this, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. Matthew 19-16-22

In this short but powerful story from the Scriptures, God reveals to us what lies in the heart of man, using this rich young man as an example. A just, upright man like him, how could you deny eternal life to this man who, since childhood, has kept and followed every one of the commandments the Lord God gave him? It seems illogical, right? But his heart was not right before God. How unfair God is! All of us in this life work hard and seek to have possessions and earn goods to support ourselves and provide for our loved ones. Why would He deny eternal life to someone like that? Because his heart was turned away from God. Perhaps the young man did work hard and put all his effort and dedication into earning money and possessions for his life; or perhaps he inherited a great fortune from his parents or a relative. The truth is, we don't know. What matters here is that all his goods and fortunes became so important to him. They took God's rightful place. The problem was never wealth or fortune, but rather the love of money and fortune. The young man could have followed every commandment and been called a saint in the eyes of men, but God, who sees the heart and thoughts, exposed what truly drove this young man and what his true love was: money.

And that is precisely what drives human beings, the engine of this life: love. If we stop to reflect, I believe we would all come to the conclusion that love is the driving force of life, whether we like it or not. We do everything out of love for something.

How can we reach that conclusion, you might ask? I'm so glad you asked, my dear friend. Here are some answers.

First of all, I would like to emphasize two types of love: implicit love and explicit love.

The simplest and easiest to understand is explicit love. Explicit love is the kind of love that doesn't require much effort to be noticed. Whether it's kissing your beloved wife after a day's work or working to earn money so you can provide for your family so they don't lack anything. All of these examples of love are easy to understand and easy to see in our daily lives.

Implicit love is a little more difficult to explain because we often don't even know what love is for that kind of love. There have been times where my friends would give me a hard time with a girl saying things like "Oh you like that girl don't you Max?" "Every time she walks by you, you freeze" then you deny all of those statements claiming that they are a lie; but later that day you meditate about it and you realize that you actually do love that person! Obviously this a very immature and simple example; but on the other side we have people who love spending their time drinking alcohol, they enjoy being out of their minds and not having to worry about anything, so they just keep getting drunk and drunk; but what they do not realize is that they love alcohol, they love being drunk, they love not just as a statement but as a way of living, they love alcohol; that is their impulse, they do not realize they have a problem because they are in love with their problem. Implicit love is the one that we have without knowing we have.

Implicit love is often the driving force of our lives. I believe that everyone in this life, especially Christians, has something they love and know they love it. But there are also people who don't know they love something. Even we as Christians have loves we don't know about, and it's through the Holy Spirit that these loves are revealed to us, and they take the place of God. I've known people who sadly have such a great love for money that it clouds their vision, and they think it's okay. As we just read in the story of the rich young man, the love of money is one of the greatest evils of humankind, and it's often clouded by our desire for and love of it.

In my Christian life, I've unfortunately met people who feel no love for humanity or for life, to the point of having suicidal thoughts. But to be honest, I ask myself, why, if you say you want to die, aren't you dead yet? They often said they hated this life and found no purpose in it. Many people say that, but they keep living and keep doing everything they should do; by no means do I want to sound apathetic or insensitive to this type of conversation. The truth is that my heart breaks every time I hear any type of conversation related to this topic. Sadly, there are many people who hurt themselves every day and many of them have taken their own lives, so this topic is not to be taken lightly. But relating this to today's topic, I ask myself again, if these people say they no longer want to live, why do they keep living? The answer I find is that it is for the love of life. Many cannot kill themselves because they love this life. Even though everything seems wrong and their mind tells them they hate this life, they simply cannot, or many hesitate when it comes to hurting themselves or thinking about truly killing themselves because this impulse we have to love life is something natural. Even though the mind tells you that you hate this life, you continue living out of an impulse that is involuntary.

So we conclude that love is the driving force of this life, the impulse of our being.

But what is love?

Defining love is not an easy task, since love can manifest itself in different forms. But if we speak generally or objectively, we could say that love is finding pleasure and joy in something or someone and giving oneself to that something or someone for the good of this life.

If we look more deeply into what love is, in 1 Corinthians 13 the Apostle Paul gives us a lesson on what love is:

13 If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned,[a] but have not love, I gain nothing.

4 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant (5) or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; 6 it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. 7 Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

8 Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. 11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. 12 For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

13 So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

A feeling so difficult to understand, yet so easy to feel and experience in our daily walk. What a wonderful gift it is to be able to love our own, and not only our own, but also those who are against us.

Where does this thing called love come from?

In verse eight of chapter 13 of Corinthians, the Apostle Paul tells us that love never ends. The Apostle Paul makes a beautiful and powerful statement that can be interpreted in two ways. The wife may be at home and, upon reading that verse, feel butterflies in her stomach, saying in her mind, "Oh, what a romantic and cheesy verse! I'm going to tell my husband about it."

Or if we really pay attention to the text, I believe that God is not trying to say something through His word; Verse eight says that love never ends, and after that, verse nine says that prophecies and tongues will cease, even knowledge will cease; all of this shall come to an end when the perfect comes. I think you and I can agree we do not live in a perfect world, so I am pretty sure Paul is talking about the next life, where we shall live with God and all shall be made perfect. The interesting thing about this is that knowledge, prophecy, and tongues will all end, but love never ceases; that means that love is Eternal.

Who would have thought that such a short verse could convey such an immense truth? Truly, these verses aren't enough to confirm the eternity of love. How can we know that love existed before we were born? In other words, how do we know that

love existed before we were born? Love never ceases to exist. The point we can affirm with this verse is that when you are born, love is within you, and it will never cease to exist. Whether in this life or the next, love will remain (this statement is only part of what the verse means, but I'll clarify that later). But the question is, love never ends, right? But does it have a beginning?

Love never ends, but does it begin? When you say something has no end, that doesn't necessarily mean it never had a beginning, right? So, could it be that love began with the human being and will never end? Sadly, this is the view of many atheists and people who are separated from God. We know what God said to Jeremiah when he said:

The Lord has appeared of old to me, saying:

*“Yes, I have loved you with an **everlasting love**;*

Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.” (Jeremiah 31:3)

What a beautiful verse, thank you, my God. And the most interesting thing of all is that the word “everlasting” in the original Hebrew is **עולם** or “Olam” or Owlam, and the etymological meaning of this word is literally eternity, perpetual, without end, forever, etc.

The Hebrew word “olam” primarily conveys the concept of eternity or an indefinite, unending duration. It is used to describe God’s eternal nature, the everlasting covenant, and the perpetual statutes given to Israel. “Olam” can also refer to ancient times or the distant past, emphasizing the continuity and timelessness of God’s purposes and promises. © 2004 - 2025 by Bible Hub

This verse is of utmost importance when talking about love, as it not only shows us the love God has for us, but also demonstrates the eternity of love, because we know that God is eternal, and for God to love, love must be eternal. God did not create love at the same time as humans; love has existed since before the foundation of the world. The verse explicitly states that God loved him with an everlasting love. It's not that love begins with us; Scripture also tells us that:

We love because he first loved us. (1 John 4:19)

So we can love, specifically God because he first loved us, and love is not something material or physical to be created or done, but rather it is in the soul, in our conscience, and obviously we know that God is eternal, so if God is eternal and loves, it is because love is eternal!

Not only has love "been with God since the beginning of time," but love is in God, it is part of his substance, just as love is in us and we can feel and experience it. Love itself is in God, and it is not only part of his emotions or his mind, but love is part of God's very nature. I would dare to say that love is one, or perhaps even the most important attribute of God; his very nature is love, or rather, "God is love."

7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. (1 John 4:7-8)

God is love; he is the perfect expression of love; love is and is him. Without God there can be no love (without God nothing can exist), and a God without love cannot exist either. Our God cannot and will never be a God without love, since he gave us the greatest demonstration of love the world has ever seen. The Letter to the Romans tells us that we have all sinned and fallen short of God (Rom. 3:23), far from him, dead in our sins and greed.

“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” – Romans 5:8

God’s love surpasses all understanding, for his love is so perfect and merciful that he himself sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins, as the Scripture says.

9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. (1 John 4:9-10)

How can this be so? If God is love, it means that God is the engine of our life. For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we are indeed his offspring.” (Acts 17:28). “For in him all things were made, and without him anything that was made was made” (John 1:3).

It is very clear to me that God is love and that without him nothing exists. He is love, and he gave us the greatest expression of love, because he so loved us that he gave his only begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. (John 3:16)

38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38-39).

Thank you Holy father for loving us so so so much that you gave your precious son for us. Thank you Lord Jesus for giving your life for us, because you love us so much; and thank you Holy Spirit for revealing Jesus to us and revealing the love of the father to us, we love you and I pray that you increase our love for you your son Holy Father, in Jesus name I pray, Amen.