

31-Love

We are all visitors to this time, this place. We are just passing through. Our purpose here is to observe, to learn, to grow, to love... and then we return home.

Australian Aboriginal Wisdom

To love is to know Me, My innermost nature, the truth that I am.

Hinduism, *Bhagavad Gita* 18: 55

Only by love can men see me, and know me, and come unto me.

Hinduism, *Bhagavad Gita*

Hatred stirreth up strifes; but love covereth all transgressions.

Judaism, Misheli (Proverbs): 12

Beloved is man, for he was created in the image of God. But it was by a special love that it was made known to him that he was created in the image of God.

Judaism, *Mishnah, Abot* 3: 18

Just as with her own life a mother shields from hurt her own, her only, child, let all embracing thoughts for all that live be thine—on all-embracing love for all the universe in all its heights and depths and breadth, unstinted love, unmarred by hate within, not rousing enmity.

Buddhism, *Sutta Nipata* 149-150

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law.

Christianity, *Galatians* 5: 22-23

Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

Christianity, *John* 14: 7-8

More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts.

Christianity, *Romans* 5: 3-5

Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends...

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

Christianity, *Corinthians I* 13: 4-9, 13

Say: If you love God, follow me, and God will love you, and forgive you all your sins; God is All-forgiving, All-compassionate.

Islam, Muhammad, *Qur'án* 3: 31

And hold fast, all together, by the rope which Allah (stretches out for you), and be not divided among yourselves; and remember with gratitude Allah's favour on you; for ye were enemies and He joined your hearts in love, so that by His Grace, ye became brethren; and ye were on the brink of the pit of Fire, and He saved you from it. Thus doth Allah make His Signs clear to you: That ye may be guided.

Islam, Muhammad, *Qur'án* 3: 103

O SON OF MAN! For everything there is a sign. The sign of love is fortitude under My decree and patience under My trials.

Bahá'i, Bahá'u'lláh, *Hidden Words* (Arabic), #48

O ye beloved of the Lord! Commit not that which defileth the limpid stream of love or destroyeth the sweet fragrance of friendship. By the righteousness of the Lord! Ye were created to show love one to another and not perversity and rancour. Take pride not in love for yourselves but in love for your fellow-creatures. Glory not in love for your country, but in love for all mankind.

Bahá'i, Bahá'u'lláh
Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, pp. 138-139

Strive, therefore, to create love in the hearts in order that they may become glowing and radiant. When that love is shining, it will permeate other hearts even as this electric light illumines its surroundings. When the love of God is established, everything else will be realized. This is the true foundation of all economics. Reflect upon it. Endeavor to become the cause of the attraction of souls rather than to enforce minds.

Bahá'í, 'Abdu'-Bahá,
Promulgation of Universal Peace, p. 239