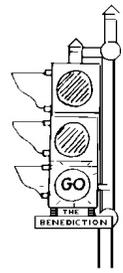


The Benediction

September 1, 2005



God loves his beloved church. And despite her fondness for others, His love continues. Through continual episodes of unfaithfulness God hopes for the day His love is required.

SHE LOVES ME (Mark 1:1 & Luke 4:18)

She loves me... She loves me not...
She loves me... She loves me not... She loves me...

And I love her.
She really does love me. And she obeys.
She wants to please.

No. It's not at all like you say. She loves me because I love her. And she responds to my love.

I want her love, her true love. That is why I've not compelled her to love me, and she does not, always.

But I still love her. I have determined to always love her, though she displease me, on occasion.

You are right; she is not perfect. But I Am. I Am patient. And I will endure her occasional disappointments knowing that my love is strong enough for her perfection.

In time she will have no part of you. And she will love me always, and only.

She loves me... She loves me not...
She loves me... She loves me...
me not... She loves me...

She loves me...
She loves me...

She loves me... She loves me...

WANT LOVE?

He has not moved away, He calls you every day: Want love? draw closer.

THE PRIZE (2 John 1:7)

I desire you, but you are not God. What do you possess besides me and others so ill informed? What do you know other my love? Who are you to snatch my heart from Him who loves me, and give so little for this prize?

SALVATION, THE HARD WAY (Joel 2:25)

She may be the one, only God knows.

Certainly she is better than many who feign well. She has come by her salvation the hard way.

It would have been better if her pain and embarrassment had been avoided, and it could have been. She has learned by it, is better for it, and the years destroyed by the locusts have been restored.

POWER IN MY WORD

i am strengthened by the confession

so

i will love you and continually tell yo u of my love

and

when i say i love you i will love you more
and when i say i love you i will love you more
and when i say i love you i will love you more

for there is power in my word.

KILL AND COVET (JAMES 4)

She was to die for, and she would be mine.

And then she was mine. Not totally in accordance with church doctrine, but she was.

And we enjoyed each other, for a time.

SATAN'S PREY

So long I have wanted to pursue, to chase.

There is something great, something thrilling, about the chase. Even without capture, the chase invigorates. There is the hope! The vision of what will be with closure prods me on to new imaginative ways to entice; and I have spied worthy prey.

WAITING

I've called to you for so long. And I've written you, carefully outlining all you need to know to avoid your calamity-- thinking that in a moment of thought you might pick up and read, and learn who I Am and what you are called to be.

You won't hear me. But I continue to call, --to let you know of My love, that I AM still here, waiting

PLANTING (Corinthians 1:4-5)

Just as the farmer sows and protects his seed, I will sow my words carefully. Daily I will overlook them to ensure proper nourishment and protection.

I will not allow my words to be overrun by weeds of strife or contention. I will protect the fruit from those who would gather too soon and declare the limited bounty to those who would follow, weakening them and destroying their hope of any future gain.

I will ensure adequate water and enriching Sunshine. My words will grow to their full potential and provide well for me.

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