GREAT LOVE II

He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. 1 John 4:8 (KJV)

When it comes to size “great” is not an exact measurement but it means very large. If one is talking about accomplishments it means remarkable or outstanding. To speak of a leader one might say they were great and mean they were distinguished. Now, as we speak of God’s love in measurement it is an immeasurable love. If we speak of The God who loves us, he is distinguished from any and all others. His accomplishments through his love are certainly remarkable and outstanding. Yet for all that, he continues to love us and wants to love through us today.

I would like to refer to another of D. L. Moody’s stories. There was a young boy attending a Sabbath School in Chicago. His family had to move to another part of the city. After moving, the young child continued to walk quite a distance to attend his Sabbath School. A very nice lady spoke to the boy one day and encouraged him to attend one of several schools much closer to his new home. He replied that he would like to keep going to his school. When she persisted he said.

“They love a fellow over there.”

This is how Moody ended his story.

“If only we could make people believe that we loved them, there would be fewer empty churches, and a smaller proportion of our population would pass by the church door. Let love replace duty in our church relations, and the world will soon be evangelized.”—Anecdotes, Incidents and Illustrations

There may be many things that we do not do very well but God has given us the ability to love greatly. Love is life giving, life sustaining, life extending; it is soft and soothing but also powerful enough to transform the world. God gives it to us and we have access without measure to heavens storehouse. Love your spouse; love your children; love your family; love your neighbor; love your classmates, workmates, and friends. Love your enemies. Love your Lord. He loved you first.

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram