

John 21:20 - "Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; the one who also had leaned back on His bosom at the supper and said, "Lord, who is the one who betrays You?"



IN THE BEGINNING

God
created
the heavens
and the
earth.

GENESIS 1:1



INTRODUCTION

Our English word for love has become a matter of perception.

We have used the word love so carelessly that it has lost its specialness and real significance.

We are surrounded by love in every corner.

THE
LOVE
BEYOND
LOVE



- 1. The Lost Meaning of Love**
- 2. The Fearless Love**
- 3. The Perfect Love**
- 4. The Love In The Beginning**
- 5. The Love For Man**

I. THE LOST MEANING OF LOVE

The word **LOVE** was originally meant to express something deeper, yet it is so overused that sometimes we need to substitute the word cherish, or honor, for love just to get our point across.

The enemy has even taken this beautiful, sacred word and cheapened it with a monetary value.

II. THE FEARLESS LOVE

I John 4:18 *"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."*

The word **perfect** in Greek is **TELEIA** from the root word telos.

It is where we get our word for telescope.

The word in Aramaic is **MASHAMAH**, which is bringing to maturity, to be grown. Complete.

Our love, when it reaches maturity, it will cast out all fear.

Love only matures when we fully understand and experience perfect love.

III. THE PERFECT LOVE

We need a word to describe the love that we are experiencing from God.

It is usually an adjective to the word love, like abiding love, parental love, or unconditional love.

John 21:20. *"Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus LOVED following them; the one who also had leaned back on His bosom at the supper and said, "Lord, who is the one who betrays You?"*

In **John 21:20**, the writer talks about the disciple whom Jesus loved.

The Greek uses the word **agapaos**, but the Peshitta, (Aramaic Bible) uses the word **racham**.

God's love - **RACHAM.**

In **John 3:16**, love in the Greek is **AGAPAO**, and **CHAV** in Aramaic.

Different word than the Aramaic word racham used in **John 21:20**.

The word RACHAM is found 47 times in the Hebrew Old Testament.

Strong's defines it as love and to have compassion. It is used by God to express His love for us.

Our love for God is on a human level and could not match the love God has for us.

The Davidson Analytical Lexicon: Racham is used to express the idea of loving tenderly, tender affection to pity or to have mercy.

Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch, indicates that racham is protection from harm in the sense of maternal type protection or mercy.

It is also used for empathizing.

It is an extreme love and expressed in English as **"I love you with all my heart or with all I possess."**

The Brown Driver Briggs Lexicon: the word racham is used for an eagle or vulture because of their protective nature.

It also indicates a place where something is formed or originates, such as the womb.

It has the idea of women who are praying out of a manifestation of love and not for mere ceremony.

IV. THE LOVE IN THE BEGINNING

Although racham is not mentioned in the first chapters of Genesis, there is evidence of it found in these first chapters. **Genesis 1:1: *"In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth."***

The word '*beginning*' in Hebrew is **BERESHITH** from the root word '**rosh**', which means the head, the top, the highest, or the start.

The best or choicest.

The beginning of God's best.

After everything God created, he declared that it was good or in the Hebrew tov, which has the idea of being in perfect harmony.

What God created was in perfect harmony with Him.

Everything was in perfect harmony with Him until the fall of man.

So, when God created man, he was made to be in perfect harmony with God.

Love is close to the vibrations of God, but love can be filled with selfishness, greed, personal desires, and many other things that are not in sync or compatible with God.

Even though you love, you are close to the kingdom of God, but you are not necessarily in total sync with God.

Our 'ahav/chav love differs from racham love in the fact that 'ahav/chav love is not in perfect harmony with God.

You can have an affection and desire for things and call that affection and desire love, but it is not racham; it is not in harmony with God.

Racham is a vibration of love but a vibration that is in sync in harmony with God.

In the beginning, God created the world with racham love, a perfect love that was in harmony with Him.

The word for Spirit of God is ruach, the racham or love of God, which vibrates love to create all that exists.

Now everyone that is born of God receives the Love/Spirit of God.

Racham becomes natural in us, because it is that part of us that God breathed into us that He did not breathe into animals.

Genesis 2:7: *"And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul."*

The word '*breathe*' is NESHEMAH, which is a living spirit.

It is this spirit that is eternal and capable of experiencing love.

V. THE LOVE FOR MAN.

There was one purpose that God had for creating Adam, and that was to share His racham or have a racham love relationship.

Racham cannot exist unless there is another source to receive that racham and willingly return it.

The racham is that which makes us the image of God.

How was Adam to learn love or racham?

God had to give Adam something in the natural to teach what God's love was really all about.

Because of sin there was hatred and murder.

There was a failure to foster God's love, until One Man came.

We all have a picture of love but it is not perfect love.

Perfect love was demonstrated on the cross.

That is the best picture of Racham.

In this picture of love, we have a model for the love that God has and desires from a human.

It is the Son of God who willingly gave his life to save the lives that God loved so much, so cherished that the sinner has become more important than His own life.

He gained no love in return for what He did and He died and now we have this news that everyone who comes to Him will be loved.

CONCLUSION:

Only those who have received love can give love.
He who receives much gives much.

That is why it is so important to experience
God's love.

Racham, which God gave in the beginning, and the
Spirit He is still giving is available.

It is the love beyond the love we used to think.