



**Cross Currents  
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*“Our God contracted to a span,  
Incomprehensibly made man,  
And we the life of God shall know,  
For God is manifest below.”*

Charles Wesley 1707-1788

*Blessed Christ-centered greetings as together we rejoice in His birth!*

**Dear Prayer Supporter,** For many years, CCIM have ministered in Israel through the printing and distribution of our literature in Hebrew, Russian and Arabic. Thank you for your prayers and gifts as we continue to reach many in the land of Christ’s birth through Internet, Google Ads and our literature! Recently, a further 5,000 copies of Arabic “*Your Quest for God*” were printed by CCIM for prayerful and careful free distribution. Maranatha!

In His love,

**God’s love extended through CCIM by ministry to Israel**

*“The star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.”* Matthew 2:9.

*“When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy . . . saw the young child & worshipped Him.”* Matthew 2:10-11.

Over the years, we have been privileged to minister His Word in Israel, both in person and through Internet and “*Your Quest for God*,” which is called “*The Spiritual Search*” in Hebrew. “YQFG” is also widely used with “Food for Faith” in Russian and Arabic.

As the late Victor Smadja of KAM wrote 12 years ago: “We have distributed the Russian version of ‘YQFG’ since five years, and several believers involved in evangelism convinced us, that it would be a very helpful tool in reaching



Hebrew speakers as well. After all, this clear and simple presentation of the Gospel was written to help precisely fill the vacuum, the longing of every human soul to be reunited with his or her Creator, from Whom they were separated by sin. This translation was produced by Cross Currents Int’l Ministries.”

As you pray for Israel, please join us in prayer that the CCIM books will help many readers to turn to Yeshua, Jesus the Messiah, the only way to the One True God!

**Tax deductible gifts processed through CCIM—PO Box 1058, Lynden, WA 98264  
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# Love:

## Inductive

*“perceive the love of God”*

1 John 3:16

*by Richard A. Bennett*

## *The Love of God*

1. Incomprehensible Love
2. Inclusive Love Part I
3. Inclusive Love - Part II
4. Insightful Love
5. Incomparable Love
6. Incontestable Love
7. **Inductive Love**
8. Influential Love

**A** light bulb is a simple apparatus that converts electric energy into light energy. According to the law of conservation of energy, “Energy can neither be created nor destroyed. It simply changes form into something that can be used.” Wire is needed to conduct energy from a generator or solar panel to the light bulbs.

The same is true of the light and love of God. Faith is the conductor that transmits life and love from its Source in the Eternal Godhead to the heart of the believer. Though the flesh will gladly volunteer to simulate love, it is only the humility of dependent faith that will transmit the light and love of the Lord Jesus to and through the heart of the believer.

“Prior to creation, there existed nothing but the glory of God” (A Jewish commentary). Immediately following His first act of creation, God said: *“Let there be light, and there was light”* Genesis 1:3. This was not the light of the sun as this was not yet created. However, the prime creation was bathed in the light of God’s eternal glory.

It was not until the fourth day that God said: *“Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven ... and God made two great lights; the greater light to rule by day, the lesser light to rule by night, He made the stars also”* Genesis 1:14,16. Later the prophet Isaiah wrote: *“Arise, shine, for Thy light has come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.”* Isaiah 60:1. Isaiah then travels in a prophetic time machine from

when God clothed Himself with flesh in the person of Baby Jesus, to the eternal city of Jerusalem: *“The sun shall be no more thy light by day: neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but the Lord shall be unto thee an everlasting light and thy glory”* Isaiah 60:19.

John prophesied of the end of time: *“The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it; **for the glory of the Lord did lighten it** and the Lamb is the lamp thereof”* Revelation 21:23. So the Bible tells us that both the glory and the light of God were demonstrated at the beginning of time, and they will again be demonstrated when time melts back into eternity. The light of God cannot be destroyed. It is transmitted to people who live in a world of spiritual darkness. It is an inexhaustible supply!

We know that the moon was not designed to create light. All the moon can do is to reflect light that is generated by the sun. *“For God who commandeth light to shine out of darkness, has shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ”* 2 Corinthians 4:6.

However, just as when the earth is positioned between the sun and the moon, there is a total eclipse; likewise, when the love of self and the love of the world intervene between the light of the Savior’s love and the believer, there is a spiritual eclipse. Sadly, friends and neighbors no longer see the reflection of the Savior’s love.

Because God knows it is impossible for you and me to generate both light and love, in and of ourselves, He displayed His own light and love in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ, *“They that dwell in the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shone”* Isaiah 9:2.

When in the world, the Lord Jesus said, *“I am the light of the world”* John 8:12. He also said to His followers, *“Ye are the light of the world”* Matthew 5:14. The source of light is the Lord Jesus. The reflectors of light are born again children of God. Not only did God say that He is light, we also read, *“God is love”* 1 John 4:8. As such, He is not only the source of light, but He is also the source of agape love. *“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God, and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not, knoweth not God; for God is love”* 1 John 4:7, 8.

*“By this we perceive the love of God because He laid down His life for us, and we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren”* 1 John 3:16. What does it mean to lay down our life for the brethren? It is demonstrated when we lay down the manifold advantages of our education, our culture and our possessions at the foot of the cross for the blessing of other people and for the glory of God. Have the multiple blessings God has bestowed upon us been brought to a halt in a ‘dead-end street’ and been utilized for our own benefit, or have God’s blessings traveled on a ‘freeway’ to bless other people? The apostle Paul testified how to *“lay down our life”* works on a day by day basis:

**Elimination:** *“Those things that were gain to me, I have counted loss for Christ.”* Philippians 3:7.

Years ago a young lad passed me as I shook hands with the congregation after the morning service. With tears streaming down his face, we left the other people, and he told me, “I’ve disobeyed God!” Apparently, he was carrying his very own dime, with which he wanted to spend for an ice cream. As the missionary offering plate passed, he felt he ought to give his dime, but kept it in his pocket. “Sir, is it too late?” he asked. What could I say or do? So we

prayed together, and I thanked God I was witnessing two miracles: The first was a young boy who now wanted to obey God rather than lick an ice cream: The second was that through such love offerings, boys and girls in faraway places would have the opportunity to hear of the love of Jesus. He gladly put his ten cents into my hand for Missions:

**Concentration:** *“But this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind . . . ”* Philippians 3:13.

Living fellowship with the Risen Christ involves finding His will; following His will and finishing His will with the supreme goal of knowing Him. This was exemplified through the pioneer missionary to India, C.T. Studd. Charlie fell in love with Priscilla, a very devoted Christian. During their engagement days, mission assignments precluded them being together on a regular basis. He wrote: “My darling Priscilla, I want you to pray every day ‘Lord Jesus, I love You. You are to me dearer than ever Charlie could be.’” *“He that loveth father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.”* Matthew 10:37.

**Acceleration:** *“I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus”* Philippians 3:14.

“I love You, Lord, but with no love of mine, for I have none to give; I love You, Lord, but all the love is Thine. For by Your love I know I am as nothing, and rejoice to be emptied, and lost, and swallowed up in You.”

*“Let us lay aside every weight and the sin which does so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith”* Hebrews 12:1-2.

### *Spiritual Check Up*

\* Do I excuse my present spiritual inertia on past traumas and disappointments, or do I forget that which is behind and *“press toward the mark”*?

\* Am I *“looking unto Jesus”* in spite of physical, financial or circumstantial limitations?