



School of Optometry Chaplaincy Office

Psalm 33.18: "Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy."

All-Seeing Eye



God = LOVE

1 John 4.4-12

⁴You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.

⁷Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

In a simple and clear language –if we know love, we know something about God because God is love. In this, all major religions coincide:

- Hinduism views love as a sacrament, even calling God the “Divine Love”...
- Buddhism teaches that a pure act of saving a life is greater than spending all your time making religious offerings to the gods...
- Judaism teaches humankind to love the Lord with all your heart, soul, and might...
- Islam recognizes 99 names for God, and among them there is the name “the Loving One”...

It could not be simpler: love and God are united; they are One.

This passage tells us some very important things about God:

1. It says that love is from God, and that if we love, we know God.
2. It offers a basic Christian faith statement about the identity of Christ.
3. It reminds us that the gift of Christ is a gift of love and that loving each other is an appropriate response to this free gift, a response that is pleasing to God.



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El Aposento Alto / The Upper Room (January-Februray 2022) devotionals are available in the Chapel, the Students Center and in the Center for Access to Information.

LOVE



Hinduism

In each individual heart a stream of love is flowing, which like a confined river constantly seeks an outlet through which it can run into that ocean of Divine Love, which is called God. Father's love should recognize that Ideal as his child. Mother's love should see It in her newborn babe. The love of a brother or of a sister should establish a fraternal relationship with It. A husband who is devoted to his wife should think of his Eternal Ideal in the soul of his wife, and a wife should put her highest spiritual Ideal in the soul of her beloved husband and love him with her whole heart and soul. The love of a friend should look upon It as his dearest friend and the Divine Companion. In this way all earthly relationships could be spiritualized and all human affection could in the course of time be transformed into expressions of Divine Love in daily life. There would be no more cause of dissatisfaction in a household, no more fighting between brothers and sisters, no more divorce on account of incompatibility of temper. Then each of these human affections would be like a path that leads to Divine Reality and eternal happiness.



Buddhism

One act of pure love in saving life is greater than spending the whole of one's time in religious offerings to the gods.



Taoism

Love finds what sages seek. Body and mind disappear.
Division and separation end.
The Being that is all overcomes the thinking that is some.



Confucianism

Love makes a spot beautiful — who chooses not to dwell in love, has he got wisdom?
Love is the high nobility of Heaven, the peaceful home of man.
To lack love, when nothing hinders us, is to lack wisdom.
Lack of love and wisdom leads to lack of courtesy and right, and without these man is a slave.



Zoroastrianism

There is one thing that every man in this world below may love . . . he may love Virtue.
Man is the beloved of the Lord and should love Him in return.



Judaism

Thou shalt love the Lord, thy God, with all thy heart, with all thy soul, and with all thy might.
And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be upon thy heart. Thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt speak of them when thou sittest in thy house, when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and thou risest up. Thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thy hand, and they shall be for frontlets between thine eyes. Thou shalt write them upon the doorposts of thy house and upon thy gates: That ye may remember and do all My commandments and be holy unto your God. Infinite as is Thy power, even so is Thy love.



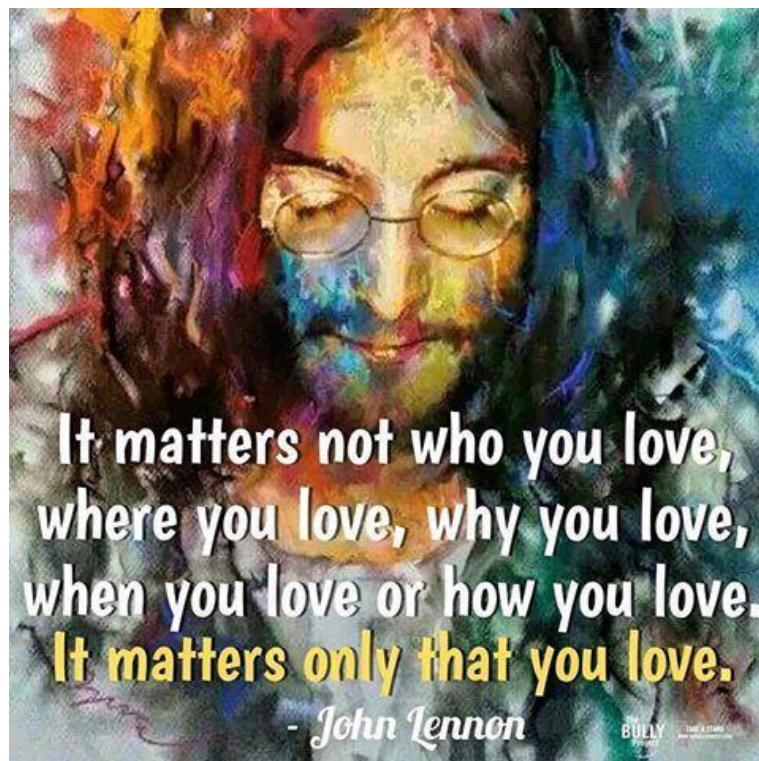
Christianity

“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.” Let us love one another; for love is of God, and he who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God; for God is love . . . No man has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and His love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His own Spirit . . . We love, because He first loved us.



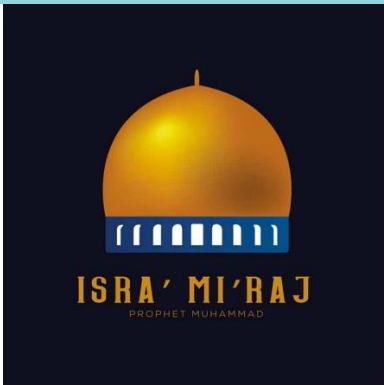
Islam

Surely unto those who believe and do deeds of righteousness the All-merciful shall assign love.





February 2022

Dates	Event	Religion / Spiritual Tradition	Things to know
February 28		Islam	<p>"The Night Journey and the Ascension", which is observed on the 27th day of Rajab, which is the seventh month of the Muslim lunar calendar.</p> <p>The holiday commemorates the night when the Prophet Muhammad is believed to have made a miraculous journey from Mecca to the Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, where he then traveled to the heavens, where God commanded him to initiate prayers five times each day.</p>

