### Who Can Receive God' Divine Love and How?



God's Divine Love, poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit (Rom. 5:5) is the key to being born anew, born from above, or born of the spirit, which in turn is the requirement for salvation or entering the Celestial Kingdom of God (John 3:3-8, Tit. 3:5).

Jesus was the first to receive the Divine Love and his mission was to bring the good news – gospel – of the Kingdom that the Divine Love was again available to humanity after the first parents rejected it. He became the Christ, which means "anointed". Those who follow his instructions on receiving the Divine Love are "in Christ", and they become a new creation (2 Cor. 5:17), acquiring God's divine nature (2 Pet. 1:4).

The below answers on how to receive the gift of the Divine Love are largely based on the reference at the end of the article.

#### How to Receive the Divine Love?

"The only Way in which salvation can be obtained by man, and make him of a nature divine, is through the medium of the Holy [Spirit], and by the Way pointed out by Jesus."

One "must pray with the sincere longings of his soul for the inflowing of the Father's Love; and he must have faith that such love is a real thing, and that it comes to him in response to his prayers."

#### Who Can Receive the Divine Love?

"This Love is waiting for all mankind, no matter where and of what race the individuals may be, and that they can receive this Love even though they have never heard of the Plan of salvation as declared by Jesus.

When God re-bestowed this Love, He intended that every human being, as well as spirit, should have the opportunity to obtain It, and that the manner in which It might be obtained should be made known to all mankind."

#### How Were Humans and Spirits to Learn about God's Gift?

"In carrying out this intention, [God] specially selected Jesus for this work, who, through his own teachings, would enable mankind to learn of this Love.

Of course, during the short ministry of Jesus on earth, it was impossible that all [humans] should learn of him through the teachings of himself or of his disciples. Hence, the spirits of the world of spirits were permitted to hear these teachings and come into their knowledge. Then, when they should obtain this Love, they were to teach It to mortals and spirits, which they did; and they have been doing so ever since."

# Why Have Jesus' Disciples and the Spirits Not Been Successful in Disseminating the Truth of the Divine Love (the Gospel)?

"But while they have been working all these centuries to bring about this great consummation, yet, they have not succeeded for the reason that they could not force the Truth of the Plan of salvation upon either mortal or spirit."

#### What Is Necessary for Individuals to Receive the Divine Love?

"Consequently, in the exercise of their free wills, unless [humans] and spirits would open up their understandings of the soul qualities, supplemented by the exercise of their mental qualities, they could not obtain this Divine Love.

And just as [humans] on earth have refused to listen to those in mortal life who have attempted to teach them of religious things, so, in the spirit world, many spirits have refused and are refusing to listen to the teachings of other spirits who have the knowledge and possession of this Great Love.

And mortals have also failed to respond to the impressions which spirits have been trying to make upon them as to this Truth, and, as a consequence, were unable to open up their soul perceptions. Thus, many mortals, as well as spirits, have never received the benefit of the Great Gift of re-bestowal of this Love."

#### How Have Humans Received and Experienced the Divine Love?

"Many have responded to these impressions and, even while on earth, have had the inflowing of this Love to a more or less extent, although they may not have been conscious of the fact in such a definite manner as to know that what they had received was a portion of the Divine Love."

## What Hinders Human Receptivity to Spiritual Impressions and Receiving the Divine Love?

"Among the great obstacles to [humans] putting themselves in this condition of receptivity are the creeds and mental beliefs and ceremonies obtaining in many of the churches of Christendom, and in many of the faiths and teachings of the

races which live outside of Christendom, and which have never heard of this great Plan of salvation.

In the spirit world, the followers of many of the faiths and creeds ... have never heard of this Divine Love or of the necessity of receiving It, but worship God according to their beliefs on earth, satisfied that the doctrines which they profess are the true and only ones. And they absolutely refuse to listen to the spirits who often try to teach the Truths as to eternal life in the Celestial Spheres.

... some of them will listen, but will *decline to believe* that there are any other Truths than the ones that they have embraced."

#### How Many Will Ultimately End Up Receiving the Divine Love?

"While this Great Gift of the Divine Love, and the privilege of obtaining It, was bestowed upon all men, and that this Love is ever ready to enter into their souls, yet, a very large majority of spirits and mortals will never receive It and become inhabitants of the many mansions.

All [humans] and spirits will have the opportunity to receive this Love before the great day of final separation, but many will not be willing to accept this Gift. They will be satisfied in the happiness of their natural love, and will be contented to live in their merely spiritual homes."

## What Will Happen to Those Who Will Refuse or Neglect Receiving the Divine Love?

"Many [humans] and spirits will neglect to exercise their privilege of obtaining the great gift of the Divine Love and suffer the second death.... when this privilege of receiving the Divine Love ... will again be withdrawn .... No other death is meant ... than that which is now constantly taking place. There will be no death in the sense of condemning the spirit of man to eternal punishment or causing the annihilation of any spirit. ... No, the only death will be the death that the first parents died at the time of their disobedience, which was the deprivation of the great privilege of receiving the Divine Love and thereby partaking of the divine nature of the Father and immortality."

#### In Summary

The key to receiving the Divine Love is prayer with sincere soul longings for the Love together with faith that the Love will be given in response to the person's prayers. Other conditions are for individuals to listen to true teachings or respond to the impressions of qualified spirits, and as a result, open up their understandings of the soul qualities — open their soul perceptions, supplemented by the exercise of their mental qualities. Many on earth have had the inflowing of this Love without understanding it or having a conscious knowledge of it.

Anyone is eligible to receive the Divine Love if they so wish and fulfill the conditions, but very few will do so. Many are hindered by their ingrained beliefs and worship practices.

Those who refuse this privileged gift when the opportunity to receive it is withdrawn will suffer the "second death" the same way as the first parents – they will be deprived of the opportunity to partake of divine nature and immortality in the Celestial Kingdom of God.

Reference: Angelic Revelations of Divine Truth, Vol II, p. 167

#### In Conclusion

The apostle Paul uses eloquent language in his letter to the Ephesian congregation to shine light on our wonderful potential destiny.

Eph 1:3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms [the Celestial Kingdom] with every spiritual blessing in Christ [the Divine Love].

Eph 1:4-6 For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight [through acquiring His divine nature – 2 Pet. 1:4]. In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons [become His true children rather than just created children] through Jesus Christ [who was the first and the way-shower], in accordance with his pleasure and will – to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the one he loves. [Salvation is by grace – humans cannot initiate it, they can only respond to the offer.]

Eph 1:7-8 In him we have redemption ..., the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

Eph 1:9-10 And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment [salvation was not available from when Adam and Eve rejected God's offer till Jesus] – to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ. [Jesus is the head of the Celestial Kingdom of God. He came to proclaim the gospel of the Kingdom and how humans and spirits could gain inheritance therein.]

Eph 1:11-12 In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. [predestined as the first-fruits or firstborn of which Jesus was the very first (see also James 1:18).]

Eph 1:13-14 And you [Gentiles] also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed [hearing and believing set them on their way], you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit [imparting the Divine Love which] is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance [in God's Celestial Kingdom] until the redemption of those who are God's possession [His true children] – to the praise of his glory. ...

Eph 1:17 I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better [increased soul perceptions and closer relationship with God].

Eph 1:18-19 I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened [further increased soul perceptions] in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints [Celestial Kingdom with unlimited potential for growth]. ...

Eph 2:1-2 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of ... the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

Eph 2:3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. ...

Eph 2:4-5 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved.

Eph 2:6-7 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus [the Celestial Kingdom], in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

Eph 2:8-9 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast.

Eph 2:10 For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.