

THE AUGUSTINE TEACHINGS

Eternal Knowledge

GOD IS LOVE

The Nature of the Divine



THE AUGUSTINE TEACHINGS: ETERNAL KNOWLEDGE

BOOK 2 – GOD IS LOVE: THE NATURE OF THE DIVINE

By Ron Henderson



Copyright

Copyright © 2026 by Ron Henderson

All rights reserved.

No part of this book may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without prior written permission of the publisher, except in the case of brief quotations used in reviews or scholarly work.

This book is a compilation and presentation of spiritual teachings attributed to Augustine and other celestial sources, organized and written by the author for the purpose of spiritual reflection and personal growth.

Scripture quotations are taken from the Holy Bible.

DISCLAIMER

The teachings presented in this book are offered for spiritual reflection and personal growth. They are not intended to replace Scripture, established religious doctrine, or professional guidance.

Readers are encouraged to use discernment and prayer when engaging with these materials.

PUBLISHER INFORMATION

New Birth Ministry
www.newbirthministry.com
ISBN: 979-8-9962995-3-9



Scripture

*“And hope does not put us to shame, because
God’s Love has been poured out into our
hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been
given to us.” — Romans 5:5*

*“Now this is eternal life: that they know you,
the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom
you have sent. — John 17:3*

Dedication

This book is dedicated to all seekers of truth who have felt the quiet longing of the soul for something greater.

To those who have questioned, searched, prayed, doubted, hoped, and continued their journey despite uncertainty.

May you discover for yourself that God is not merely loving, but that God IS Love—and that His Divine Love is available to every soul who sincerely seeks it.

It is also offered in gratitude for the many friends, teachers, and unseen helpers whose encouragement and guidance helped bring these pages into being.

May every reader come to know for themselves that God IS Love.

The Prayer Perfect

A Prayer Given Through Jesus

Our Father, who art in Heaven,

We recognize that Thou art all holy, loving, and merciful, and that we are Thy children—not the subservient, sinful, and depraved creatures that false teachings would have us believe. We are the greatest of Thy creation, the most wonderful of all Thy handiworks, and the objects of Thy Soul's love and tenderest care.

Thy will is that we become at one with Thee and partake of Thy great Love, which Thou hast bestowed upon us through Thy mercy and desire that we become, in truth, Thy children—through love, and not through the sacrifice and death of any of Thy creatures.

We pray that Thou will open our souls to the inflowing of Thy Love, and that Thy Holy Spirit may come to bring into our souls this Divine Love in great abundance, until our souls are transformed into the very essence of Thyself. Let there come to us such faith that we realize we are truly Thy children, and that we are one with Thee in substance and not in image only.

Let us have such faith as will cause us to know that Thou art our Father, the bestower of every good and perfect gift, and that only we ourselves can prevent Thy Love from changing us from the mortal to the immortal.

Let us never cease to realize that Thy Love is waiting for each of us, and that when we come to Thee with faith and earnest longing, Thy Love will never be withheld from us.

Keep us in the shadow of Thy Love every hour and moment of our lives, and help us overcome all temptations of the flesh and the influences that seek to turn our thoughts away from Thee.

We thank Thee for Thy Love and for the privilege of receiving it. We believe that Thou art our loving Father, who smiles upon us in our weakness and is always ready to help us and gather us into Thy arms of Love.

We pray thus with all the earnestness and longing of our souls, and trusting in Thy Love, give Thee all the glory, honor, and love that our finite souls can offer.

About This Series

The Augustine Teachings: Eternal Knowledge

This series presents spiritual teachings organized from messages attributed to Augustine and other celestial sources. Its purpose is to guide readers toward a deeper experience of God—not merely through belief, but through the reception of Divine Love within the soul.

Each volume explores a central aspect of spiritual growth, beginning with prayer and expanding into themes such as love, humility, discernment, and transformation.

The focus throughout is not on doctrine alone, but on personal experience, inner change, and living in harmony with Divine Love.

A Continuing Spiritual Journey

Book 1 — Prayer

Book 2 — God IS Love

Book 3 — Compassion

Book 4 — Humility

Book 5 — Faith

A continuing spiritual journey inspired by the Augustine teachings through Al Fike.

Additional volumes in preparation.

Foreward

The Christian faith has undergone countless interpretations since the time of Christ. Across centuries of retelling, translation, and doctrinal debate, the original message has often become obscured. Each generation—shaped by its own culture, beliefs, and institutions—has added layers of interpretation to the story, until the initial truth can feel distant and difficult to grasp.

This raises an important question: Can we rediscover that truth in a way that cuts through accumulated myth and tradition? Attempting to do so by relying on two thousand years of theological thought is challenging, for much of it is filtered through human agendas, liturgical frameworks, and cultural assumptions. Authenticity, in many cases, is filtered rather than preserved.

The material in these volumes offers something different. It presents spiritual teachings that are refreshingly direct—spoken not through centuries of commentary but through contemporary mediumship, a practice that has existed in various forms throughout human history. While often misunderstood or placed on the fringe of mainstream thought, mediumship carries profound potential if one is willing to approach it with an open yet discerning mind. The messages recorded here are thoughtful, coherent, and deeply moving. They address questions that have stirred human hearts for millennia: Why are we here? What is the nature of God? What is the path toward spiritual fulfillment?

What makes these teachings especially compelling is their source. Through the dedicated work of gifted mediums, the voices of prominent spiritual figures—among them Jesus, Augustine, and Moses—speak with clarity across time. Their intention is not to reinforce dogma but to illuminate truth. They come to correct misunderstandings, clarify earlier teachings, and share the wisdom they have gained in the realms of spirit. Far from being distant or inaccessible, they speak with warmth, purpose, and remarkable

consistency.

At the center of their message is a profound spiritual reality: God is a God of Love, and this Divine Essence is not merely symbolic but tangible. It is available to all who earnestly seek it through sincere prayer and desire. Jesus affirms that this Divine Love was the heart of his ministry on Earth and remains the foundation of his teachings today. Augustine, Moses, and others testify to this truth as well, having themselves undergone the transformative experience often called the New Birth.

These volumes contain a wealth of spiritual insights. They offer guidance for living a meaningful life, for nurturing one's inner growth, and for preparing the soul for its eternal journey. Absorbing their full depth will take time, contemplation, and a willingness to engage personally with the truths presented. The value of these teachings is not merely in reading them, but in living them.

I also wish to acknowledge and commend my friend Ron Henderson for his tireless work in compiling, organizing, and presenting these remarkable communications. His dedication, clarity, and sensitivity have made these teachings accessible to a wide audience. In an era marked by fear, distraction, and a growing disconnect from spiritual values, these works offer a breath of fresh air and a pathway back to what matters most.

Love—true, transformative Love—is what our world hungers for. These volumes open the door to understanding that Love and how to nurture it within our own lives.

With sincere appreciation,

Albert J. Fike

Author, Celestial Medium, Master Gardener

March 1st 2026

Personal Reflection

Personal Reflection

Many years ago, during a period of deep spiritual searching, I experienced an awakening that changed the course of my life. During a revival service, a simple truth began repeating within me with unmistakable clarity:

God is Love.

Not merely that God possesses love, or that God acts lovingly, but that Love itself is the very Essence of God.

That realization led me on a journey that has now spanned more than three decades. It caused me to re-examine many of my beliefs, to seek a deeper understanding of prayer, and to ask what it truly means to be born again of the Spirit.

Over the years, through prayer, study, personal experience, the writings of James Padgett, and the teachings received through Al Fike from Augustine and other celestial teachers, that original truth has only grown stronger.

This book is an invitation to explore that truth.

Not as theology alone.

Not as philosophy alone.

But as a living reality that can transform the human soul.

My prayer is that these pages inspire you to seek God directly and discover for yourself the power of Divine Love.

— Ron Henderson

Introduction

Book 2 — God IS Love

If there is one truth that has shaped my spiritual journey more than any other, it is this:

God IS Love.

At first glance, these three words may seem familiar. Many people have heard them before. Yet there is a profound difference between believing that God is loving and realizing that Love is the very Essence of God. That realization changes everything.

For many years I searched for a deeper understanding of God through prayer, Scripture, and the teachings of Jesus. As I prayed sincerely for God's Divine Love to enter my soul, I gradually came to understand that this Love is not merely an emotion or an expression of God's kindness. It is His very Nature. It is His Divine Essence, freely offered to every soul who sincerely desires it.

This understanding transformed my relationship with God. Prayer was no longer simply asking for guidance or help. It became an invitation for God's Love to enter my soul and continue its work of healing, transforming, and awakening me. Over time I discovered that the more God's Love filled my soul, the more my understanding of Him grew—not only in knowledge, but through personal experience.

The teachings shared in this book, inspired by the messages received from Augustine through Al Fike, helped deepen that understanding. Again and again, these teachings point to the same central truth: the greatest gift God offers His children is His Divine Love. It is this Love that changes the nature of the soul, bringing

greater peace, compassion, humility, wisdom, and harmony with God.

This book is not intended to define God completely, for no book could ever do that. Rather, it is an invitation to contemplate the greatest truth any soul can discover—that God IS Love—and to seek that Love through sincere prayer.

As you read these pages, I encourage you not to approach them merely as ideas to consider, but as truths to experience. Read prayerfully. Reflect deeply. Ask God to reveal His Love to your own soul.

For when Divine Love is received, it is no longer simply a belief.

It becomes a living reality.

And that reality has the power to transform your life forever.

How to Use This Book

How to Use This Book

This book is not intended to be rushed through.

Each chapter contains spiritual concepts that are best approached prayerfully and thoughtfully.

You may choose to read one chapter at a time and spend several days reflecting upon its message.

At the end of each chapter, you will find:

- Reflection Questions — to encourage personal examination.
- A Practice Section — simple prayers and exercises designed to help you experience the truths being discussed.

The greatest value of this book will not come from merely understanding its ideas.

Its value will come through your personal experience of God's Divine Love.

Approach these teachings with an open heart, a sincere desire for truth, and a willingness to seek God directly through prayer.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Copyright	i
Scripture	ii
Dedication	iii
The Prayer Perfect	iv
About This Series.	vi
Foreward.	vii
Personal Reflection.	ix
Introduction	xi
How to Use This Book	xiii
A Thought from Augustine.	xv
Chapter 1 — God Is Not Loving, God IS Love	1
Chapter 2 — Natural Love versus Divine Love.	13
Chapter 3 — Why Humanity Confuses Love.	24
Chapter 4 — Divine Love Is a Spiritual Substance	33
Chapter 5 — How the Soul Receives Divine Love	44
Chapter 6 — What Divine Love Does to the Soul	55
Chapter 7 — Divine Love and Truth	65
Chapter 8 — Love Overcomes Fear	73
Chapter 9 — Love Transforms the Mind.	81
Chapter 10 — Love and God’s Plan	89
Chapter 11 — Love and Service	98
Chapter 12 — Love, Forgiveness, and Freedom	105
Chapter 13 — Becoming Love in the World	112
Chapter 14 — The Eternal Nature of Love.	120
About Augustine	129
About The Author.	131
The Journey Continues	133
Final Reflection	134

A Thought from Augustine

“May the Father touch you deeply, open you to His blessing of Love, awaken you to what that blessing truly is and how it will change you and heal you and bring you deep peace.”

— Augustine – September 13th, 2025. Estonia. Received by Al Fike

Chapter 1 — God Is Not Loving, God IS Love

Many people say, “God loves you.”

It is one of the most common phrases spoken in churches, prayers, and spiritual conversations. It is meant to comfort the hurting, strengthen the weak, and inspire faith.

But Augustine teaches something deeper—something far more powerful than comfort.

He teaches that God does not merely give love.

God does not merely express love.

God does not merely show love when He chooses.

God IS Love.

This is not poetry.

This is not symbolism.

It is spiritual truth.

And when this truth is understood, it changes everything about how a soul approaches God.

Love Is Not Something God Does

Human beings think of love as an action.

They think love is something you feel, something you show,

something you decide to give. Human love is often connected to behavior.

We love when people treat us well.

We love when we feel safe.

We love when we feel appreciated.

We love when we are attracted.

Even the best human love often rises and falls depending on circumstances.

This is why humanity struggles to understand God.

People unconsciously project their human understanding onto the Divine.

They assume God loves the way humans love.

But Augustine teaches that Divine Love is not like natural love.

Natural love is emotional.

Divine Love is Essence.

Natural love is conditional.

Divine Love is eternal.

Natural love can weaken.

Divine Love does not change.

Natural love can be wounded.

Divine Love cannot be harmed.

To understand God, the soul must stop thinking of Love as something God does.

The soul must recognize that Love is what God is.

Love Is the Essence of God

Augustine teaches that God is not a personality in the human sense.

God is not a man sitting on a throne making decisions based on anger, favoritism, or mood.

God is Spirit.

God is the Divine Source of all creation.

And God's nature is Love.

This means Love is not merely an attribute of God.

Love is God's substance.

God's presence is Love.

God's power is Love.

God's will is Love.

God's truth is Love.

If a person seeks God but does not seek Love, they will remain confused. They may become religious, but not awakened. They may gain knowledge, but not transformation.

Because God cannot be separated from Love.

To seek God is to seek Love.

To know God is to know Love.

To receive God is to receive Love.

Why This Truth Is Hard for Humanity

The mind has been trained by the world.

It has been trained to see power as dominance.

It has been trained to see authority as control.

It has been trained to see love as weakness.

And because of this conditioning, many people struggle to believe that the Creator of all things could be Love itself.

They think:

“How can Love be strong enough to govern the universe?”

“How can Love allow suffering?”

“How can Love permit darkness?”

“How can Love allow human failure?”

Augustine teaches that these questions arise because the mind is limited.

The mind sees only a fragment of reality.

But the soul is capable of knowing what the mind cannot grasp.

The soul knows that Love is not weak.

Love is the greatest force in existence.

Love Is the Foundation of All Spiritual Law

Augustine teaches that spiritual laws do not operate through fear.

They operate through Love.

Divine Love is not sentimental. It is not indulgent. It does not excuse darkness. It does not tolerate deception.

Divine Love is powerful.

It purifies.

It exposes falsehood.

It strengthens truth.

It heals what is broken.

It restores what has been corrupted.

And it does this without hatred.

Darkness cannot survive in the presence of Divine Love.

Just as shadows cannot remain when Light enters a room, darkness cannot remain when Divine Love fills the soul.

This is why Augustine teaches that Divine Love is not only comfort.

It is cleansing.

It is transformation.

It is redemption.

Love Is the True Meaning of Salvation

Many people believe salvation is a reward for belief.

They believe it is a spiritual contract.

They believe it is earned by being correct in doctrine, or by behaving properly.

Augustine teaches salvation differently.

He teaches salvation is the soul being restored to its rightful condition.

The soul was created to live in Love.

When the soul is separated from Love, it becomes distorted. Fear takes root. Pride grows. Judgment hardens. Pain becomes identity. The mind dominates. The world becomes everything.

But when Divine Love enters, the soul begins to awaken.

This awakening is salvation.

Not because the person suddenly becomes perfect, but because the soul begins to return home.

Salvation is not only what happens after death.

Salvation begins when the soul receives Love now.

Love Is the Only True Healing

The world offers many forms of healing.

Some are useful.

Some are necessary.

But Augustine teaches that no human method can heal the soul completely.

Because the soul's deepest wound is not physical.

The soul's deepest wound is separation from Divine Love.

A person may heal emotionally and still feel empty.

A person may heal mentally and still feel restless.

A person may gain success and still feel lost.

This is because the soul requires Love, not achievement.

Only Divine Love heals the deepest layers.

Only Divine Love dissolves fear at its root.

Only Divine Love removes encrustations that human effort cannot reach.

Only Divine Love restores the soul's spiritual strength.

God's Love Is Not Conditional

One of the most liberating truths in Augustine's teachings is this:

God does not love you because you are good.

God loves you because God IS Love.

God's Love does not rise and fall with your behavior.

God's Love is not given as payment.

God's Love is not withdrawn as punishment.

This does not mean behavior does not matter.

It means God's Love remains constant regardless.

The soul may block Love through pride, fear, or resistance, but Love itself is never removed.

The sun does not stop shining because someone closes their curtains.

The sun remains.

So does Divine Love.

God does not stop being Love.

Why Many Do Not Feel God's Love

If God's Love is constant, why do so many people feel abandoned?

Why do so many people pray and feel nothing?

Why do so many people struggle with emptiness?

Augustine teaches that the soul can become blocked.

The soul becomes burdened by the world.

The soul becomes covered by fear.

The soul becomes hardened by pain.

The soul becomes distracted by ambition.

The soul becomes sealed by pride.

And when the soul is sealed, Divine Love cannot enter in fullness—not because God refuses, but because the soul has not opened.

This is why prayer matters.

Prayer is the soul's consent.

Prayer is the soul opening its door.

When the soul opens, Love enters.

When Love enters, God is experienced.

God IS Love, and Love IS Light

Augustine teaches that Love and Light are inseparable.

Where Divine Love is present, Light increases.

Where Light increases, truth becomes visible.

Where truth becomes visible, illusion collapses.

This is why Divine Love is both comforting and challenging.

It comforts the soul by healing.

It challenges the mind by revealing error.

Divine Love does not only soothe.

It transforms.

This transformation may feel uncomfortable at times, because darkness within the soul must be released.

But the end result is always freedom.

The First Step in Knowing God

The first step in knowing God is not theology.

It is not study.

It is not debate.

It is not religious performance.

The first step in knowing God is allowing the soul to accept one truth:

God IS Love

If the soul accepts this, everything begins to change.

Fear begins to weaken.

Hope begins to rise.

Prayer becomes natural.

The soul begins to long.

And longing draws Divine Love.

This is how the journey begins.

REFLECTION

- Have you thought of God as loving, but not fully understood that God IS Love itself?
- Do you trust that God's Love is constant even when you cannot feel it?
- Are you willing to open your soul to receive Divine Love more deeply?

PRACTICE

In quiet prayer today, say:

“Father, I accept that You are Love.

Help my soul to receive Your Divine Love.”

Then sit in stillness.

Do not strain.

Simply allow openness.

Chapter 2 — Natural Love versus Divine Love

One of the greatest confusions in humanity is the meaning of the word love.

People say they love their spouse.
They love their children.
They love their friends.
They love food.
They love success.
They love attention.

The same word is used for devotion, desire, affection, attachment, and even obsession.

Because of this, many assume that Divine Love is simply a stronger version of human love.

But Augustine teaches clearly:

Natural love and Divine Love are not the same thing.

They may look similar at times, but they originate from completely different sources.

Natural love comes from the human condition.

Divine Love comes from God.

Natural Love Is Human and Earthly

Natural love is the love we are born into as humans.

It is love expressed through personality, emotion, and relationship.
It is part of the earthly experience, and it serves an important purpose.

Natural love bonds families.

Natural love builds friendship.

Natural love creates loyalty.

Natural love makes life meaningful.

Augustine does not teach that natural love is bad.

He teaches that it is limited.

Natural love is often tied to emotion, need, and circumstance.

It is influenced by the mind.

It is influenced by the body.

It is influenced by the environment.

It is influenced by the wounds a person carries.

This is why natural love can shift so easily.

A person may love deeply one day and withdraw the next.

A person may feel devotion and then feel anger.

A person may feel loyalty and then feel betrayal.

Natural love is real.

But it is not eternal.

Natural Love Often Contains Fear

One of Augustine's strongest teachings is this:

Natural love is often mixed with fear.

People fear losing what they love.

They fear being abandoned.

They fear being rejected.

They fear not being valued.

So even love becomes intertwined with insecurity.

Natural love may say:

- "I love you, but don't leave me."
- "I love you, but don't change."
- "I love you, but you must meet my needs."
- "I love you, but you must stay the way I want."

This is not always spoken, but it is often present beneath the surface.

The mind clings.

The heart attaches.

And fear becomes part of the relationship.

Augustine teaches that fear is not Love.

Fear is the shadow that enters when Love is incomplete.

Natural Love Can Become Possessive

Because natural love is connected to human need, it can become possessive.

A person may love someone, but also want to control them.

They may love someone, but also demand loyalty.

They may love someone, but feel jealousy.

They may love someone, but become bitter if their love is not returned.

This does not mean the person is evil.

It means the love is human.

And the human condition is mixed.

Augustine teaches that natural love is often love mixed with ego.

Love mixed with self-interest.

Love mixed with pride.

Love mixed with fear.

This is why human relationships can bring both joy and pain.

Divine Love Is Not Emotional Attachment.

Divine Love does not cling.

Divine Love does not demand.

Divine Love does not manipulate.

Divine Love does not punish.

Divine Love does not withdraw.

Divine Love is not an emotional state.

Divine Love is God's Essence.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love does not depend on how someone behaves. It does not rise and fall. It is constant, because it is God.

Divine Love does not need anything from the person receiving it.

It gives freely.

It blesses freely.

It heals freely.

It strengthens freely.

This is why Divine Love feels so different when it is received.

Many people who begin to receive Divine Love say:

“This Love is not like anything I have known.”

Because it is not human love.

It is Divine.

Divine Love Heals While Natural Love Comforts

Natural love can comfort a person.

It can soothe pain.

It can encourage.

It can support.

But natural love cannot fully heal the soul.

Augustine teaches that only Divine Love heals the deep wounds of the soul because Divine Love reaches deeper than emotion.

Divine Love penetrates encrustations.

It dissolves fear.
It removes spiritual darkness.
It awakens the soul.

Natural love may make life bearable.

Divine Love makes life meaningful.

Natural love may hold you up.

Divine Love transforms you.

Natural Love Can Be Selfless, Yet Still Limited

Some natural love is truly selfless.

A parent may sacrifice for a child.

A friend may risk their life for another.

A spouse may remain faithful through hardship.

These are beautiful expressions of human love.

But Augustine teaches that even selfless natural love can still be limited because it cannot overcome all spiritual conditions.

A person may love selflessly but still struggle with fear.

A person may love deeply but still feel bitterness.

A person may love faithfully but still carry judgment.

Natural love can be noble, but it does not cleanse the soul.

Divine Love does.

Divine Love Is Pure and Without Condition

Augustine teaches that Divine Love is pure because it comes from God.

Divine Love does not require anything in return.

It does not say:

- “You must earn me.”
- “You must prove yourself.”
- “You must be perfect.”

Divine Love simply is.

And when it enters the soul, the soul begins to feel something humanity rarely experiences:

Love without fear.

Love without judgment.

Love without bargaining.

Love without shame.

This Love feels safe.

This Love feels eternal.

This Love feels like home.

Divine Love Strengthens the Soul

Natural love often strengthens emotion.

Divine Love strengthens the soul itself.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love builds spiritual power.

It increases courage.

It increases discernment.

It increases peace.
It increases humility.
It increases the soul's ability to serve.

Divine Love is not soft in the weak sense.

It is powerful.
It makes the soul strong without making it hard.

This is one of the great mysteries of Divine Love:

It creates strength without cruelty.

Divine Love Expands Love for Others

One of the clearest signs that Divine Love is entering the soul is this:

A person becomes more loving toward others.

Not because they force kindness.
Not because they pretend.

But because Love becomes active within them.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love multiplies natural love.

It makes a parent more patient.
It makes a spouse more compassionate.
It makes a friend more understanding.
It makes a stranger more caring.

Divine Love expands the soul's capacity.

It increases the ability to forgive.

It increases the ability to serve.

It increases the ability to remain peaceful even when others are difficult.

Divine Love does not replace natural love.

It purifies it.

Natural Love Without Divine Love Becomes Fragile

Augustine teaches that natural love alone is fragile because it depends on conditions.

If a person's love is rooted only in emotion, then when emotion fades, love weakens.

If love is rooted only in attraction, then when attraction changes, love suffers.

If love is rooted only in need, then when needs are unmet, bitterness grows.

But when Divine Love is present, love becomes stable.

Divine Love provides a foundation that natural love cannot create.

This is why relationships deepen spiritually when prayer and Divine Love are involved.

Divine Love Is the Future of Humanity

Augustine teaches that humanity's future depends on Divine Love.

Without Divine Love, humanity remains ruled by fear, conflict, pride, and division.

But as Divine Love enters more souls, humanity begins to change.

Compassion increases.

Violence decreases.

Truth becomes stronger.

Service becomes natural.

Harmony becomes possible.

Divine Love is not only personal salvation.

It is the path of collective healing.

REFLECTION

- Do you confuse attachment with Love?
- Have you experienced love mixed with fear?
- Are you willing to seek Divine Love beyond human love?

PRACTICE

Pray today:

“Father, purify my love.

Replace fear-based love with Divine Love.”

Then reflect on how your love might change if it were rooted in God instead of fear.

Chapter 3 — Why Humanity Confuses Love

Humanity speaks of love constantly, yet understands it poorly.

People build their lives around love, fight over love, sacrifice for love, and suffer deeply because of love—yet rarely stop to ask what love truly is.

Augustine teaches that this confusion is not accidental.

It is the result of living in a world where natural love has replaced Divine Love as the reference point.

When this happens, love becomes distorted.

Love Has Been Redefined by the World

The world teaches people what love looks like.

Through media.

Through culture.

Through family patterns.

Through past wounds.

Through unmet needs.

Love becomes associated with:

- attraction
- excitement
- approval
- validation
- possession
- security

These things are not evil.

But they are not Love itself.

Augustine teaches that when love is defined by what it gives to the self, it becomes centered on the ego.

And ego-based love is fragile.

Love and the Fear of Loss

One of the strongest reasons humanity confuses love is fear of loss.

People learn early that love can be taken away.

Parents may withdraw affection.

Partners may leave.

Friends may betray.

Approval may be conditional.

So love becomes something to protect, secure, and control.

This creates a false belief:

“If I lose this love, I lose myself.”

Augustine teaches that Divine Love removes this fear because Divine Love cannot be lost.

But until Divine Love is experienced, people cling to human love as

if it were their lifeline.

This clinging distorts love.

Attachment Masquerading as Love

Much of what is called love is actually attachment.

Attachment says:

- “I need you.”
- “I am incomplete without you.”
- “You make me feel safe.”
- “You give me identity.”

These feelings can exist in healthy relationships, but when they define love, they become dangerous.

Augustine teaches that attachment seeks fulfillment from another human, while Divine Love fulfills the soul directly.

Attachment creates dependency.

Love creates freedom.

When people confuse attachment with love, relationships become strained by fear, jealousy, and control.

Love Conditioned by Worthiness

Many people believe love must be earned.

They behave well to receive love.

They hide flaws to keep love.

They perform to maintain love.

This belief often begins in childhood and extends into adulthood.

Augustine teaches that this conditioning deeply wounds the soul.

Because Divine Love is not earned.

Divine Love is given.

When people believe love must be earned, they struggle to believe God loves them unconditionally.

They project human patterns onto God.

They fear judgment.

They fear rejection.

They fear punishment.

This blocks the soul from receiving Divine Love.

Love Confused With Pleasure

Another distortion of love is pleasure.

Pleasure feels good.

Love can feel good.

So the two become confused.

Augustine teaches that pleasure is temporary.

Love is eternal.

Pleasure rises and falls with stimulation.

Love remains even in stillness.

When people chase pleasure believing it is love, they remain restless.

They seek new experiences, new relationships, new distractions.

But the soul remains hungry.

Because pleasure feeds the senses.

Love feeds the soul.

Love and Power

In the world, love is often mixed with power.

People use love to influence, persuade, or control.

They withhold love as punishment.

They give love as reward.

They manipulate through affection.

Augustine teaches that this is not love.

It is power disguised as love.

Divine Love never manipulates.

Divine Love never coerces.

Divine Love never uses fear.

Where power dominates, Love is absent.

Why Religion Has Also Confused Love

Augustine does not spare religion from critique.

He teaches that religion has often distorted Love by emphasizing rules over relationship.

God becomes judge rather than Father.

Love becomes obedience rather than communion.

Fear becomes motivation rather than trust.

This leads people to obey God without knowing God.

To fear God without loving God.

To serve God without receiving Love.

Augustine teaches that this is not what God desires.

God desires relationship.

God desires the soul.

God desires Love to be known and received.

The Soul Knows the Difference

Despite confusion, the soul knows.

When a person experiences Divine Love, something unmistakable happens.

The soul recognizes truth.

It says:

“This is what I have been missing.”

No argument is needed.
No explanation is required.

The soul remembers.

Augustine teaches that the soul has memory beyond the mind.

It remembers its origin.
It remembers Love.

And when Love is encountered, confusion begins to dissolve.

Confusion Leads to Suffering

Because love is misunderstood, people suffer.

They stay in harmful relationships believing it is love.
They endure abuse believing it is love.
They sacrifice their soul believing it is love.

Augustine teaches that Love never destroys the soul.

Love never diminishes dignity.
Love never demands self-betrayal.

Where these things exist, Love has been replaced by fear.

Divine Love Clarifies Everything

When Divine Love enters the soul, clarity begins.

Relationships are reevaluated.
Boundaries become clearer.
Self-respect increases.
Compassion deepens without enabling harm.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love does not confuse.

It clarifies.

It brings truth without cruelty.

It brings peace without denial.

It brings strength without hardness.

This is why Divine Love is essential.

Without it, humanity continues to confuse love and suffer.

REFLECTION

- Where have you confused love with fear, attachment, or control?
- Have you mistaken pleasure or approval for love?
- Are you willing to allow Divine Love to redefine love for you?

PRACTICE

Pray today:

“Father, show me what true Love is.

Remove false love from my understanding.”

Then observe where clarity begins to emerge.

Chapter 4 — Divine Love Is a Spiritual Substance

Most people speak of love as an emotion.

They describe love as a feeling in the heart, a warmth in the mind, or an attachment between two people.

And in human life, love often does appear this way.

But Augustine teaches that Divine Love is not merely an emotion.

Divine Love is a spiritual substance.

It is real.

It is living.

It is a force that enters the soul and changes it from within.

This is one of the most important teachings in all of Augustine's lessons.

Because until Divine Love is understood as substance, people will seek it in the wrong ways.

They will chase emotion.

They will chase comfort.

They will chase experiences.

But Divine Love is deeper than experience.

It is God's Essence.

Divine Love Is Not Symbolic

Many people assume that spiritual teachings about Love are symbolic language.

They believe “God’s Love” is simply a metaphor for kindness, compassion, or moral goodness.

But Augustine teaches that Divine Love is not symbolic.

Divine Love is not a concept.

It is not a poetic idea.

It is the actual essence of God flowing into the soul.

Just as the body can be nourished by food, the soul can be nourished by Divine Love.

And without this nourishment, the soul remains weak, burdened, and dormant.

Love Is a Living Energy

Augustine teaches that Divine Love is living energy.

Not electricity.

Not human emotion.

But a spiritual power that carries intelligence and purity.

It is alive because it comes from God.

It is intelligent because it is God’s Essence.

It does not simply soothe.

It corrects.

It heals.

It strengthens.

It awakens.

Divine Love does not enter the soul passively.

It enters and begins to work.

Why Words Cannot Fully Describe Divine Love

Augustine often acknowledges that Divine Love cannot be fully described in human language.

The mind tries to define it.

But the mind can only compare it to what it knows.

Divine Love is beyond what the human mind naturally understands.

This is why people struggle to believe it until they experience it.

Once Divine Love is experienced, the soul recognizes it immediately.

It is unmistakable.

It feels like:

- peace without explanation
- strength without effort
- warmth without dependency
- clarity without reasoning
- comfort without attachment

Yet even these descriptions are incomplete.

Because Divine Love is not just a feeling.

It is substance.

Divine Love Enters the Soul

Augustine teaches that Divine Love can actually enter the soul.

This is not imagination.

It is not wishful thinking.

It is spiritual reality.

When the soul opens through prayer, humility, and longing, Divine Love flows inward.

The soul begins to change.

Old burdens loosen.

Fear weakens.

Judgment softens.

Resentment dissolves.

The soul begins to awaken.

This is why prayer is so essential.

Prayer is the act of opening.

Divine Love is what enters.

Divine Love Cleanses the Soul.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love cleanses.

It is not only comfort.

It is purification.

It removes what is not in harmony with God.

This cleansing may happen gently.

Or it may happen through deep inner confrontation.

Divine Love exposes what is hidden.

It reveals wounds.

It reveals pride.

It reveals false beliefs.

Not to shame the soul, but to free it.

Because the soul cannot heal what it refuses to face.

Divine Love brings truth with compassion.

Divine Love Dissolves Encrustations

Augustine frequently speaks of encrustations—layers of spiritual condition that cover the soul.

These encrustations are formed through:

- fear
- trauma
- bitterness
- anger
- pride

- judgment
- guilt
- shame

They are not removed by logic.

They are not removed by willpower.

They are removed by Love.

Divine Love dissolves them like Light dissolves shadow.

This is why Divine Love is the only true remedy for the soul.

Divine Love Is Transformational Power

Natural love can encourage a person.

But Divine Love transforms them.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love reshapes the soul's inner nature.

A person may still have the same life circumstances, but they begin to live differently.

They become:

- more patient
- more compassionate
- more discerning
- less fearful
- less reactive
- less controlled by desire
- more aligned with truth

This is not self-improvement.

It is spiritual transformation.

It is the soul becoming more like what God intended.

Divine Love Strengthens Spiritual Gifts

Augustine teaches that Divine Love awakens gifts within the soul.

These gifts may include:

- deeper intuition
- spiritual discernment
- compassion and healing ability
- wisdom
- inner clarity
- stronger connection to God

The gifts are not given for pride.

They are given for service.

But the gifts cannot awaken fully until Divine Love enters.

Because Divine Love is the fuel of the soul.

Without it, the soul remains spiritually weak.

Divine Love Creates Inner Authority

One of the strongest changes Divine Love creates is inner authority.

The soul becomes less dependent on the opinions of others.

Less controlled by approval.

Less influenced by fear.

The person begins to stand in truth.

Not arrogantly.

But firmly.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love produces quiet strength.

The kind of strength that cannot be shaken by criticism.

The kind of strength that remains peaceful under pressure.

This is spiritual authority.

And it comes from Love.

Divine Love Is the Substance of Light

Augustine teaches that Love and Light are inseparable.

Light is not only illumination.

Light is the presence of Divine Love.

When Love increases, Light increases.

When Light increases, darkness retreats.

This is why Divine Love is the answer to spiritual darkness.

It does not fight darkness with hatred.

It replaces darkness with Light.

Divine Love Is the Most Real Thing

Many people believe the physical world is the most real.

Augustine teaches the opposite.

The physical world changes.

The physical world decays.

The physical world passes away.

Divine Love remains.

Divine Love is eternal.

It is the most real substance in existence because it comes from the Eternal Source.

When the soul receives Divine Love, it touches something unchanging.

It touches what is beyond death.

It touches God.

REFLECTION

- Have you thought of Divine Love as an emotion rather than a substance?
- Do you believe Love can actually enter and change the soul?
- Are you willing to be purified, not only comforted?

PRACTICE

Pray today:

“Father, fill my soul with Your Divine Love.

Let it cleanse and transform me.”

Then sit quietly and allow Love to work.

Chapter 5 — How the Soul Receives Divine Love

Divine Love is not earned.

Divine Love is not purchased.

Divine Love is not achieved through intellectual mastery, religious performance, or spiritual status.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love is given freely.

But it must be received.

And receiving Divine Love requires something simple, yet profound:

The soul must open.

This chapter reveals one of the most important spiritual truths in Augustine's teachings:

God's Love is always present, but the soul must choose to accept it.

Divine Love Cannot Be Forced Into the Soul

God does not violate free will.

Augustine teaches that free will is sacred.

Even God honors it.

Divine Love does not enter by force.

Divine Love enters through consent.

This is why some souls remain untouched, not because God does not love them, but because they have not opened.

The soul may be closed by:

- fear
- pride
- bitterness
- trauma
- doubt
- worldly distraction
- resistance to change

These conditions create spiritual barriers.

The Love is present, but the soul is sealed.

Prayer is how the seal is loosened.

The First Requirement: Longing

Augustine teaches that longing is the beginning of spiritual awakening.

Longing is the soul remembering its Source.

It is the soul saying inwardly:

“There must be more than this.”

Longing is not weakness.

It is not emotional desperation.

It is the soul reaching upward toward God.

Divine Love responds to longing because longing is the soul's invitation.

A person may not know what to pray.

They may not know how to speak to God.

But if the longing is sincere, the prayer has already begun.

The Second Requirement: Humility

Divine Love flows through humility.

Augustine teaches that pride blocks Divine Love.

Not because God punishes pride, but because pride seals the soul.

Pride says:

- "I don't need God."
- "I know enough."
- "I can control my life."
- "I will not surrender."

Humility says:

- "Father, I need You."
- "I do not know everything."
- "I am willing to be guided."
- "I open my soul."

Humility is not self-hatred.

Humility is truth.

It is the soul recognizing its dependence on God.

And when humility is present, Divine Love flows more easily.

The Third Requirement: Sincere Prayer

Prayer is the soul's request.

It is the soul exercising free will.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love is received through prayer because prayer is the act of choosing God.

Prayer does not need elaborate language.

Prayer does not need perfection.

Prayer must be sincere.

A sincere prayer may be as simple as:

- "Father, help me."
- "Father, I want You."
- "Father, bless my soul with Your Love."
- "Father, I open myself."

The words are not what matters.

The openness is what matters.

The Fourth Requirement: Specific Asking

Augustine teaches something that surprises many people:

God responds more strongly when the soul asks specifically.

Many pray vaguely.

They say:

“God, bless me.”

But they do not know what they truly want.

Or they are afraid to ask directly.

Augustine teaches that the soul must learn to speak honestly.

To ask for what it truly needs:

- “Heal my fear.”
- “Remove my bitterness.”
- “Help me forgive.”
- “Fill me with Divine Love.”
- “Strengthen my discernment.”
- “Purify my will.”

Specific prayer is not demanding.

It is clarity.

And clarity strengthens the channel.

The Fifth Requirement: Trust

Divine Love requires trust.

Not because God demands blind belief, but because trust is openness.

The mind often blocks Divine Love by doubting.

It says:

- “This isn’t real.”

- “Nothing will happen.”
- “I’m not worthy.”
- “God won’t answer me.”

Augustine teaches that trust is a spiritual condition.

Trust says:

“Even if I cannot see, I believe Love is present.”

This belief relaxes the soul.

And when the soul relaxes, Love flows.

Trust does not mean certainty.

Trust means willingness.

The Sixth Requirement: Patience

Many souls open briefly, then close again.

They pray once or twice and expect instant transformation.

When it does not happen immediately, they become discouraged.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love often enters gradually.

The soul has layers.

The soul has burdens.

The soul has wounds that must be released slowly.

God does not overwhelm the soul.

God strengthens it step by step.

Patience is part of receptivity.

A patient soul remains open.

An impatient soul shuts down.

The Seventh Requirement: Release of Control

Control is one of the greatest barriers to Divine Love.

The mind wants to control the spiritual journey.

It wants to decide what healing should look like.

It wants to decide what guidance should feel like.

It wants to decide what God should do.

But Augustine teaches that Divine Love is received through surrender.

Surrender does not mean giving up.

It means releasing the illusion that the mind knows best.

Surrender says:

“Father, I trust Your wisdom more than my understanding.”

When surrender is present, Divine Love enters more deeply.

The Eighth Requirement: Forgiveness and Letting Go

Augustine teaches that bitterness seals the soul.

Resentment is a spiritual weight.

Unforgiveness binds the soul to darkness.

This does not mean forgiveness is easy.

But it means forgiveness is necessary for freedom.

Divine Love helps the soul forgive.

But the soul must be willing to release.

Even if forgiveness comes slowly.

Even if it begins as prayer:

“Father, help me forgive.”

This willingness loosens the chains.

And Love enters.

Divine Love Enters in Degrees

Augustine teaches that Divine Love enters the soul in degrees.

A soul may receive a small measure at first.

This may feel like:

- a quiet peace
- a softening of fear
- a warmth in prayer
- a sense of comfort
- an inner calm

As the soul continues to pray and open, Love increases.

And as Love increases, transformation deepens.

The soul begins to awaken.

The mind becomes clearer.

The person becomes more compassionate.

Service becomes natural.

Discernment strengthens.

This is the unfolding of Divine Love.

Receiving Divine Love Is the Soul's Greatest Work

Augustine teaches that the soul's greatest responsibility is not worldly achievement.

It is receiving Divine Love.

Because Divine Love is what prepares the soul for eternity.

Divine Love is what heals the soul.

Divine Love is what makes the soul a true child of God.

To receive Love is not selfish.

It is the beginning of spiritual maturity.

Only a soul filled with Love can truly serve.

REFLECTION

- What might be blocking your soul from receiving Divine Love?
- Are you willing to open without fear?
- Are you willing to surrender control to God?

PRACTICE

Pray slowly today:

“Father, I open my soul to You.

Fill me with Divine Love.

Remove what blocks me from receiving You.”

Then sit quietly.

Let the soul receive.

Chapter 6 — What Divine Love Does to the Soul

Divine Love never enters the soul without effect.

It does not remain passive.

It does not sit quietly as an idea or belief.

Augustine teaches that when Divine Love enters the soul, it begins to work immediately—not always visibly, but always faithfully.

Divine Love changes the soul from the inside outward.

This is not self-improvement.

It is transformation.

Divine Love Awakens the Soul

Many souls live partially asleep.

They function, think, plan, and survive—but something deeper remains dormant.

Augustine teaches that the soul awakens only through Divine Love.

When Love enters, the soul begins to remember who it truly is.

A child of God.

Not a victim of the world.

Not a prisoner of fear.

Not merely a personality shaped by circumstance.

Divine Love restores spiritual awareness.

The soul begins to feel alive in a new way.

Divine Love Heals the Deepest Wounds

The soul carries wounds that the mind cannot reach.

These wounds may come from:

- rejection
- abandonment
- trauma
- shame
- guilt
- betrayal
- fear
- lifelong misunderstanding

Augustine teaches that Divine Love moves directly to these wounds.

Not to judge them.

Not to suppress them.

But to heal them.

Divine Love surrounds pain with compassion until the pain loosens and releases.

This is why prayer sometimes brings emotion to the surface.

It is not regression.

It is healing.

Divine Love Dissolves Fear at the Root

Fear is one of the soul's greatest burdens.
Fear distorts perception.
Fear weakens faith.
Fear drives control.
Fear limits Love.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love does not merely calm fear—it dissolves it.

Not instantly in all cases, but progressively.

As Love increases, fear loses its foundation.

The soul no longer feels alone.
The soul no longer feels unprotected.
The soul no longer feels abandoned.

Love replaces fear with trust.

Divine Love Softens the Mind

The mind is often hardened by the world.

It learns to defend.
It learns to judge.
It learns to suspect.
It learns to control.

Divine Love softens the mind by influencing it through the soul.

Judgment weakens.

Anger loses intensity.

Resentment loosens.

Pride softens.

The mind becomes teachable again.

Augustine teaches that this softening does not make a person weak.

It makes them wise.

Divine Love Brings Inner Peace

Peace is not the absence of conflict.

It is the presence of God within the soul.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love establishes peace at a level deeper than circumstance.

A person may still face difficulty, but the inner turmoil lessens.

The soul becomes anchored.

This peace is not forced.

It settles naturally as Love takes residence.

And once experienced, it becomes one of the clearest signs that Divine Love is present.

Divine Love Purifies Desire

Desire shapes the soul.

What the soul desires, it moves toward.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love purifies desire.

Worldly desires lose dominance.

Fear-driven ambition weakens.

The need for approval fades.

The hunger for control lessens.

The soul begins to desire:

- truth
- humility
- service
- harmony
- closeness with God

This shift happens naturally.

Divine Love reshapes the soul's inner orientation.

Divine Love Strengthens Discernment

Discernment grows as Love grows.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love sharpens spiritual perception.

The soul becomes more sensitive to:

- truth
- falsehood
- integrity
- deception
- harmony
- disharmony

This discernment does not come from suspicion.

It comes from clarity.

Divine Love makes truth feel peaceful—even when difficult.

Falsehood begins to feel disturbing—even when appealing.

This is how Divine Love protects the soul.

Divine Love Restores Dignity

Many souls live without spiritual dignity.

They feel unworthy.

They feel inferior.

They feel ashamed.

They feel invisible.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love restores dignity.

The soul begins to know its value—not through ego, but through identity.

“I am God’s child.”

This knowing changes how the soul moves through the world.

It does not demand respect.

It carries quiet authority.

Divine Love Creates Inner Freedom

Freedom is not doing whatever the mind wants.

True freedom is being free from inner bondage.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love frees the soul from:

- addiction to approval
- bondage to fear
- slavery to past pain
- compulsion to control
- attachment to illusion

This freedom does not remove responsibility.

It strengthens it.

The soul becomes free to choose Love.

Divine Love Expands Compassion

As Divine Love fills the soul, compassion expands.

Not forced compassion.

Not moral obligation.

But natural compassion.

The soul begins to feel others more deeply.

It understands suffering without judgment.

It desires to help without superiority.

Augustine teaches that this compassion is one of the clearest fruits of Divine Love.

It signals that Love is flowing outward.

Divine Love Makes the Soul Useful to God

A soul filled with Divine Love becomes useful.

Not as a tool.

But as an instrument.

God works through such souls to bring Light into the world.

This may happen quietly.

Through presence.

Through listening.

Through prayer.

Through service.

Through truth spoken gently.

Augustine teaches that God uses willing, loving souls more than powerful or knowledgeable ones.

Divine Love Prepares the Soul for Eternity

Ultimately, Divine Love prepares the soul for what lies beyond this life.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love is the soul's eternal environment.

To receive Love now is to begin eternal life now.

Not later.

Not after death.

Now.

The soul becomes accustomed to God.

And God becomes familiar.

This is the highest purpose of Divine Love.

REFLECTION

- What changes have you noticed when Love enters your life?
- Do you resist healing because it feels uncomfortable?
- Are you willing to let Love change you deeply?

PRACTICE

Today, pray:

“Father, let Your Divine Love complete its work in me.

Transform my soul according to Your Will.”

Then remain still.

Allow Love to continue.

Chapter 7 — Divine Love and Truth

Many people believe love and truth are separate.

They believe truth is harsh and love is gentle.
They believe truth corrects and love comforts.
They believe love avoids conflict and truth confronts it.

Augustine teaches something different:

True Love and true Truth are never in conflict.

They come from the same source.

God.

Divine Love reveals truth.

And truth, when received rightly, always leads back to Love.

Truth Without Love Becomes Cruel

Human truth, when separated from Love, becomes sharp.

It judges.
It condemns.
It humiliates.
It seeks to be right rather than to heal.

Augustine teaches that truth spoken without Love wounds the soul.

It may correct behavior, but it hardens the heart.

It may expose error, but it creates fear.

This is not Divine Truth.

Divine Truth never exists without Love.

Love Without Truth Becomes Weak.

Likewise, love without truth becomes false.

It avoids difficult realities.

It enables harmful behavior.

It sacrifices integrity for comfort.

It seeks peace at the cost of growth.

Augustine teaches that love without truth is not Love.

It is fear disguised as kindness.

Divine Love does not hide truth.

It reveals truth gently, patiently, and with purpose.

Divine Love Reveals Truth Safely

One of the greatest gifts of Divine Love is this:

It allows the soul to face truth without fear.

When the soul is filled with Love, truth no longer feels threatening.

The soul becomes strong enough to see itself clearly.

Mistakes can be acknowledged.

Pride can be softened.

Illusions can fall away.

Divine Love creates safety for honesty.

Truth Is Light

Augustine teaches that truth is Light.

Light illuminates what was hidden.

It does not create darkness.

It reveals it.

When Divine Love enters the soul, Light increases.

This Light reveals:

- false beliefs
- unhealthy patterns
- hidden fears
- spiritual immaturity
- inner wounds

But because Love is present, this revelation does not crush the soul.

It frees it.

Divine Love Removes Self-Deception

Self-deception is one of the soul's greatest enemies.

The mind protects itself through denial, justification, and rationalization.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love dissolves self-deception gently.

Not through shame.

Not through condemnation.

But through clarity.

The soul begins to see:

“This belief is not true.”

“This pattern is harming me.”

“This fear is limiting me.”

And because Love is present, the soul is willing to change.

Truth Is Received, Not Forced

Augustine teaches that truth cannot be forced into the soul.

It must be received.

And the soul receives truth only when it feels safe.

This is why Divine Love must come first.

Without Love, truth feels like attack.

With Love, truth feels like liberation.

Prayer invites Love.

Love invites truth.

Truth invites freedom.

This is the Divine order.

Divine Love Clarifies Moral Truth

Moral truth becomes clearer through Love.

Not through fear of punishment.

Not through rigid rules.

But through inner alignment.

A soul filled with Divine Love naturally desires what is good.

It feels discomfort when acting against truth.

Not because it is afraid, but because it is out of harmony.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love writes truth into the soul.

Conscience becomes clearer.

Integrity becomes natural.

Truth Grows With Love

Truth is not static.

As Love grows, truth deepens.

The soul understands more.

Discernment sharpens.

Wisdom increases.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love expands the soul's capacity to receive truth.

What once felt overwhelming becomes understandable.

What once felt confusing becomes clear.

Speaking Truth Through Love

Divine Love not only helps the soul receive truth.

It helps the soul speak truth.

A person filled with Love does not use truth as a weapon.

They speak gently.

They speak wisely.

They speak when needed.

They remain silent when silence serves Love better.

Augustine teaches that truth spoken through Love carries authority without aggression.

It reaches the soul of others more deeply.

Truth Protects Love

Truth protects Love from distortion.

It prevents Love from becoming indulgent.

It prevents Love from enabling harm.

It prevents Love from becoming sentimental.

Divine Love and Divine Truth sustain one another.

They are not separate virtues.

They are one reality expressed in different ways.

Living in Truth and Love

Augustine teaches that the mature soul lives in both Love and Truth.

Not swinging between harshness and softness.

Not choosing one over the other.

But allowing Divine Love to guide truth.

This creates spiritual integrity.

The soul becomes trustworthy.

Reliable.

Steady.

The world desperately needs such souls.

REFLECTION

- Do you fear truth because it feels harsh?
- Have you used truth without Love?
- Are you willing to let Love reveal truth within you?

PRACTICE

Pray today:

“Father, fill me with Divine Love and Divine Truth.

Let them work together within my soul.”

Then listen quietly.

Chapter 8 — Love Overcomes Fear

Fear is one of the strongest forces shaping human life.

It influences decisions.
It controls behavior.
It distorts perception.
It drives conflict.

Augustine teaches that fear is not the opposite of courage.

Fear is the absence of Love.

Where Divine Love is present, fear cannot remain in control.

Fear Is a Condition of Separation

Fear arises when the soul feels alone.

When the soul feels unprotected.
When the soul feels uncertain.
When the soul feels disconnected from God.

Augustine teaches that fear is not proof of weakness.

It is proof of separation.

The soul fears because it has forgotten that it is held by God.

Divine Love restores that knowing.

Fear Shapes the Mind

Fear does not remain in the emotions.

It moves into the mind.

The fearful mind:

- anticipates danger
- imagines worst outcomes
- seeks control
- resists surrender
- distrusts others
- clings to certainty

Augustine teaches that fear makes the mind dominant over the soul.

The mind tries to protect what the soul has forgotten is already protected.

Divine Love Restores Trust

Divine Love reintroduces trust at the deepest level.

Not blind trust in circumstances.

Trust in God.

When Divine Love enters the soul, the soul begins to feel supported rather than abandoned.

This trust does not erase difficulty.

It changes how difficulty is experienced.

Fear no longer governs.

Love Does Not Eliminate Caution

Augustine is careful to clarify this:

Divine Love does not remove wisdom.
It does not create recklessness.
It does not deny danger.

But it removes paralyzing fear.

A soul filled with Love can act wisely without panic.

It can prepare without obsessing.

It can face challenges without collapsing inward.

Fear Weakens Discernment

Fear clouds judgment.
It rushes decisions.
It narrows perception.
It amplifies threats.

Augustine teaches that fear makes the soul vulnerable to deception.

People act against their own values when fear dominates.

Divine Love restores clarity.

When fear subsides, discernment strengthens.

Love Creates Inner Safety

One of the most profound effects of Divine Love is inner safety.

This safety is not dependent on the world.

It does not require constant reassurance.

It is a deep knowing:

“I am not alone.”

“I am not abandoned.”

“I am held by God.”

This inner safety becomes the soul’s foundation.

Fear Cannot Survive in Divine Love

Augustine teaches that fear and Divine Love cannot coexist fully.

As Love increases, fear decreases.

Not instantly.

Not magically.

But steadily.

Fear loses its authority.

The soul becomes less reactive.

The mind becomes calmer.

Peace begins to take root.

Courage Is Born From Love

True courage does not come from force.

It comes from Love.

A soul filled with Divine Love can face truth.

It can face change.

It can face loss.

It can face uncertainty.

Not because it is fearless, but because it is anchored.

Augustine teaches that courage is trust in action.

Love Heals Fear at Its Root

Fear is not healed by reassurance alone.

It is healed by presence.

Divine Love does not argue with fear.

It replaces it.

This is why prayer is essential during fear.

Prayer invites Love.

Love dissolves fear.

Fear and the World

Augustine teaches that the world often spreads fear deliberately.

Fear controls populations.

Fear divides communities.

Fear fuels conflict.

A soul rooted in Divine Love becomes resistant to this influence.

It does not panic easily.

It does not follow fear-based narratives blindly.

It remains grounded.

This is spiritual strength.

Learning to Turn Toward Love

Fear will still arise.

Augustine does not teach denial.

He teaches response.

When fear arises, the soul must turn toward Love.

Not by fighting fear.

But by inviting God.

This response becomes a habit.

Over time, fear loses power.

REFLECTION

- What fears most often control your thoughts?
- Do you turn toward fear or toward Love?
- Are you willing to trust God more deeply?

PRACTICE

When fear arises, pause and pray:

“Father, replace my fear with Your Divine Love.”

Then breathe and remain still.

Chapter 9 — Love Transforms the Mind

The human mind is powerful.

It plans, analyzes, imagines, remembers, and creates.

But when the mind operates without Divine Love, it becomes restless, defensive, and fearful.

Augustine teaches that the mind was never meant to rule the soul.

It was meant to serve it.

Divine Love restores this order.

The Mind Under Fear

A mind ruled by fear becomes rigid.

It seeks certainty at all costs.

It reacts quickly.

It judges harshly.

It clings to control.

Fear-driven thinking narrows perception.

It reduces complex truth into simple threats.

Augustine teaches that fear turns the mind into a guard, not a guide.

Divine Love Softens the Mind

When Divine Love enters the soul, it begins to influence the mind gently.

Thoughts slow.

Judgment weakens.

Reactivity decreases.

The mind becomes more spacious.

This does not mean the person becomes less intelligent.

It means the mind becomes less defensive.

A softened mind can learn.

A softened mind can listen.

A softened mind can change.

Love Clarifies Thought

Divine Love does not make thinking vague.

It makes thinking clearer.

Augustine teaches that Love removes mental noise.

Fear-based assumptions fade.

Obsessive loops loosen.

The mind becomes more focused and calm.

Clarity arises naturally.

Love Changes Inner Dialogue

Many people carry harsh inner voices.

Self-criticism.

Condemnation.

Shame.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love transforms this inner dialogue.

The voice becomes kinder.

More truthful.

Less punitive.

The soul begins to speak to itself the way God speaks—with patience and care.

The Mind Learns to Listen

One of the greatest transformations Divine Love brings is listening.

The mind learns to pause.

To wait.

To receive.

Instead of dominating decisions, the mind begins to cooperate with the soul.

Discernment improves.

Guidance becomes clearer.

The mind becomes an instrument rather than a ruler.

Love Reduces Judgment

Judgment is often rooted in fear.

Fear of being wrong.

Fear of being threatened.

Fear of being inferior.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love reduces judgment by restoring security.

A secure soul does not need to judge harshly.

Compassion replaces criticism.

Understanding replaces suspicion.

Love Brings Mental Peace

Mental peace is one of the clearest signs of Divine Love at work.

Not constant happiness.

But stability.

Thoughts no longer spiral as easily.

The mind returns to center more quickly.

This peace grows over time.

Love Heals Obsessive Thinking

Obsessive thinking often comes from fear and lack of trust.

The mind tries to solve everything.

Control everything.

Anticipate everything.

Divine Love teaches the mind to release.

Trust replaces compulsion.

The mind rests more easily.

Love Strengthens Wisdom

Wisdom is not intelligence.

Wisdom is knowing what matters.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love strengthens wisdom by aligning the mind with truth.

The person begins to value humility over pride.

Truth over comfort.

Service over self-interest.

The mind becomes wiser because Love guides it.

Love and Emotional Regulation

Divine Love stabilizes emotion.

The mind becomes less reactive to emotional swings.

It does not suppress emotion.

It contextualizes it.

Emotion no longer controls decision-making.

The Mind Becomes a Channel of Love

As Divine Love fills the soul, the mind becomes a channel.

Words become kinder.

Thoughts become gentler.

Intentions become purer.

The mind reflects Love rather than fear.

This is mental transformation.

REFLECTION

- Is your mind ruled by fear or guided by Love?
- Do you notice judgment softening as Love increases?
- Are you willing to let the soul lead your thoughts?

PRACTICE

Today, pray:

“Father, transform my mind through Your Divine Love.”

Then notice your thoughts gently.

Chapter 10 — Love and God’s Plan

Many people wonder if God has a plan.

They ask:

“Is my life guided?”

“Does God have purpose for me?”

“Am I just drifting through circumstances?”

“Why do some suffer while others prosper?”

Augustine teaches that God does have a plan.

But God’s plan is not always what the human mind expects.

God’s plan is not built on worldly success.

God’s plan is built on Love.

God’s Plan Is Not Random

Augustine teaches that the universe is not chaos.

It is ordered.

It is governed by Divine Law.

The mind may see confusion, but the soul can sense design.

God does not create without purpose.

Every soul is created with meaning.

Every life is shaped by opportunity for growth.

Even hardship can become part of God’s plan—not because God desires suffering, but because God can use all things to awaken the

soul.

God's Plan Is Always Love

This is the foundation:

God's plan is always Love.

Not indulgence.

Not comfort.

But transformation through Love.

God's plan is not primarily to make life easy.

It is to make the soul mature.

To make the soul whole.

To make the soul capable of receiving Divine Love fully.

Augustine teaches that the purpose of life is not material achievement.

The purpose is spiritual development.

God's Plan Respects Free Will

God's plan does not remove choice.

Augustine teaches that God never forces the soul into obedience.

God guides.

God invites.

God calls.

But the soul must respond.

This is why some resist their own path.

Some delay their awakening.

Some choose darkness.

Some choose selfishness.

Yet even then, God's Love remains present.

The plan remains available.

God's plan is not fragile.

It can adapt.

Because Love is patient.

Why the Plan Is Often Hidden

Many people want God's plan to be obvious.

They want clear instructions, clear outcomes, and predictable direction.

Augustine teaches that the plan is often hidden because the soul must grow through trust.

If everything were revealed, the mind would try to control it.

But God's plan unfolds through surrender.

Through faith.

Through prayer.

Through listening.

The soul learns step by step.

And each step prepares the soul for the next.

Love Guides the Soul Into Its Purpose

Augustine teaches that Divine Love is not only healing.

It is guidance.

As Divine Love enters, the soul begins to sense direction.

The person becomes drawn toward truth.

Drawn toward service.

Drawn toward humility.

Drawn toward spiritual responsibility.

God's plan does not always appear as a sudden revelation.

Often it appears as inner movement.

A calling.

A desire to help.

A desire to change.

A desire to seek truth more deeply.

This is the plan unfolding.

God's Plan Uses Life's Trials

Augustine teaches that trials can refine the soul.

This does not mean God enjoys suffering.

It means the world contains hardship, and God uses hardship to awaken those willing to grow.

Trials can teach:

- humility
- patience
- forgiveness
- courage
- trust
- discernment

Many souls discover God more deeply in hardship than in comfort.

Not because hardship is good, but because hardship breaks illusion.

It forces the soul to seek what is real.

And what is real is Love.

God's Plan Is Bigger Than One Lifetime

Augustine teaches that the soul is eternal.

This life is not the whole story.

God's plan is not limited to earthly time.

Many things cannot be understood fully from the mind's perspective because the mind sees only the immediate.

But the soul is part of a greater journey.

God's plan is eternal.

It is the preparation of the soul for its ultimate home in Divine Love.

God's Plan Leads to Service

Augustine teaches that God's plan always leads the soul toward service.

Not forced labor.

Not obligation.

But Love expressed outwardly.

A soul filled with Divine Love naturally desires to help.

God's plan is not self-centered.

It is collective.

It contributes to healing humanity.

This is why awakened souls are often guided into teaching, healing, praying for others, or strengthening those who are lost.

Trusting the Plan When You Cannot See It

The hardest part of God's plan is trusting it when it is unclear.

Augustine teaches that the soul must learn to trust Love even when it does not understand circumstances.

This trust is spiritual maturity.

It says:

“Father, I cannot see what You see.
But I trust that Your plan is Love.”

This is not denial.

It is surrender.

And surrender opens the soul more deeply.

The Plan Is Fulfilled Through Love

Augustine teaches that God's plan is not fulfilled by ambition.

It is fulfilled by Love.

The soul grows as it receives Divine Love.
The soul advances as it chooses humility.
The soul fulfills purpose as it serves others.

God's plan is not something the soul must force.

It is something the soul must allow.

REFLECTION

- Do you trust that God's plan is Love?
- Are you resisting your path because you want control?
- What might God be teaching you through your current circumstances?

PRACTICE

Pray today:

“Father, I trust Your plan.

Guide me in Divine Love.”

Then remain open for direction.

Chapter 11 — Love and Service

Service is not the goal of Divine Love.

Service is the result of Divine Love.

Augustine teaches that when a soul is truly touched by Divine Love, it cannot remain self-contained. Love moves. Love flows. Love seeks expression.

Service is Love in action.

Not forced action.

Not obligated action.

But natural action.

Service That Comes From Love Is Different

There are many ways people serve.

Some serve from duty.

Some serve from guilt.

Some serve from fear of judgment.

Some serve to feel worthy.

Augustine teaches that these forms of service eventually exhaust the soul.

They are driven by the mind.

Divine service is different.

It arises from fullness, not lack.

A soul filled with Divine Love serves because it overflows.

Love Must Come Before Service

Augustine is clear on this truth:

A soul that serves without Love becomes depleted.
A soul that serves with Love becomes strengthened.

Prayer and receiving Divine Love must come before service.
Otherwise, service becomes sacrifice instead of joy.

This is why many burn out spiritually.

They give without being filled.

They work without resting in God.

Divine Love reverses this.

Service Does Not Always Look Dramatic

The world celebrates visible service.

Public acts.
Recognition.
Achievement.

Augustine teaches that God values unseen service.

Listening patiently.
Praying quietly.
Offering compassion.
Holding peace in conflict.
Choosing humility.

These acts carry immense spiritual weight.

Divine Love often works invisibly.

Service Without Ego

When Divine Love guides service, ego fades.
The person does not need credit.
They do not need praise.
They do not need control.

They serve because Love moves them.

Augustine teaches that ego-driven service weakens Love.

Love-driven service dissolves ego.

Service Reveals the Depth of Love

How a person serves reveals the depth of Divine Love within them.

If service is conditional, Love is shallow.
If service is patient, Love is deep.
If service is humble, Love is strong.

Augustine teaches that Love reveals itself through action more clearly than words.

Love and Boundaries in Service

Divine Love does not mean endless giving.

Augustine teaches that Love includes wisdom.

A soul guided by Love knows when to give and when to rest.

Knows when to help and when to step back.

Knows when to speak and when to remain silent.

Service without boundaries becomes harmful.

Love always respects truth.

Service Strengthens the Soul

Service done in Divine Love strengthens the soul.

It aligns the soul with its purpose.

It increases joy.

It deepens humility.

It strengthens connection with God.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love grows through expression.

When Love flows outward, more Love flows inward.

Love Makes the Soul Useful to God

God does not seek perfect servants.

God seeks willing hearts.

A soul filled with Divine Love becomes a channel God can work through.

Not because the soul is special.

But because it is open.

Augustine teaches that God works most powerfully through those who are humble, loving, and surrendered.

Service Is Not About Saving Others

Augustine teaches that no human saves another soul.

Only God does.

Service is not about rescuing.

It is about offering Light.

Each soul must choose.

Service respects free will.

Love never forces.

Service Is Part of God's Plan

Service is not separate from God's plan.

It is how God's plan unfolds on Earth.

Every act of Love contributes to healing the world.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love expressed through service is how Light spreads.

REFLECTION

- Do you serve from Love or obligation?
- Are you giving without being filled?
- Where might God be calling you to serve differently?

PRACTICE

Pray today:

“Father, let my service come from Divine Love.

Use me as You will.”

Chapter 12 — Love, Forgiveness, and Freedom

Forgiveness is one of the most misunderstood spiritual teachings.

Many believe forgiveness is weakness.
Others believe it is excusing harm.
Some believe it means forgetting pain.

Augustine teaches something very different.

Forgiveness is freedom.

And freedom is impossible without Divine Love.

Forgiveness Is Not Denial

Forgiveness does not deny wrongdoing.

It does not pretend pain did not occur.
It does not erase memory.

Augustine teaches that forgiveness acknowledges truth without being enslaved by it.

The soul says:

“Yes, this happened.
Yes, it hurt.
But I will not carry this burden forever.”

Forgiveness is not about the offender.

It is about the soul's release.

Why Forgiveness Is So Difficult

Forgiveness feels impossible when the soul is empty.

When Divine Love is absent, the soul clings to pain for protection.

It fears letting go.

It fears vulnerability.

It fears injustice.

Augustine teaches that without Divine Love, forgiveness feels like loss.

With Divine Love, forgiveness feels like relief.

Bitterness Is a Spiritual Chain

Bitterness binds the soul.

It keeps the soul tied to past wounds.

It drains energy.

It clouds discernment.

It hardens the heart.

Augustine teaches that bitterness is a spiritual weight.

Forgiveness removes that weight.

Divine Love gives the soul the strength to release what bitterness holds.

Forgiveness Requires Divine Love

Human effort alone cannot forgive deeply.

A person may suppress anger, but the wound remains.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love dissolves resentment.

It softens the heart.

It restores compassion.

It does not excuse harm.

It frees the soul.

This is why prayer is essential in forgiveness.

Forgiveness Heals the Soul

When forgiveness happens, the soul heals.

Peace increases.

Energy returns.

Joy becomes possible again.

Augustine teaches that forgiveness allows Divine Love to flow where bitterness once blocked it.

This healing may happen gradually.

Forgiveness often unfolds in stages.

But each step brings freedom.

Forgiveness Does Not Remove Boundaries

Forgiveness does not require continued harm.

Augustine teaches that Love includes wisdom.

A soul can forgive and still protect itself.

Forgiveness does not mean trust.

Forgiveness means release.

Boundaries remain.

Love remains.

Forgiveness Breaks Spiritual Cycles

Unforgiveness keeps cycles alive.

Cycles of anger.

Cycles of blame.

Cycles of fear.

Augustine teaches that forgiveness breaks these cycles.

The soul is no longer controlled by the past.

It becomes free to move forward.

Forgiveness Restores Dignity

Holding resentment often hides pain.

Forgiveness restores dignity.

The soul no longer defines itself by injury.

It reclaims identity.

“I am more than what was done to me.”

Divine Love restores this truth.

Forgiveness Is a Process

Forgiveness is not always immediate.

Augustine teaches patience.

A soul may need time.

May need prayer.

May need Divine Love to enter gradually.

The soul must not be forced.

Love respects readiness.

Forgiveness Prepares the Soul for Freedom

True freedom requires forgiveness.

Without forgiveness, the soul remains chained.

Augustine teaches that forgiveness opens the door to deeper spiritual growth.

The soul becomes lighter.

More open.

More able to receive Love.

REFLECTION

- Are you holding resentment that burdens your soul?
- Do you confuse forgiveness with weakness?
- Are you willing to ask God for help forgiving?

PRACTICE

Pray today:

“Father, help me forgive what I cannot release alone.

Free my soul through Divine Love.”

Chapter 13 — Becoming Love in the World

Divine Love does not enter the soul so it can remain hidden.

It enters so it can be lived.

Augustine teaches that the final movement of Divine Love is expression—not performance, not moral display, but being.

A soul filled with Divine Love becomes Love in the world.

Love Is Lived, Not Proclaimed

Many speak about Love.

Few live it consistently.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love does not announce itself.

It does not demand attention.

It does not seek recognition.

It expresses itself naturally through:

- patience
- humility
- compassion
- integrity
- calm strength
- quiet courage

A soul does not need to convince others it has Love.

Love reveals itself.

Becoming Love Is an Inner State

Becoming Love does not mean becoming passive.

It means becoming aligned.

Aligned with God's nature.

Aligned with truth.

Aligned with humility.

Augustine teaches that when the soul is aligned with Divine Love, actions flow naturally.

The person does not constantly calculate what is “loving.”

They are loving.

Love in Ordinary Life

Becoming Love does not require dramatic acts.

Divine Love shows itself in ordinary moments:

- listening fully
- speaking gently
- choosing honesty
- remaining calm under pressure
- refusing to spread fear
- showing compassion without enabling harm

Augustine teaches that these quiet acts change the world more than grand gestures.

Love Without Compromise of Truth

Becoming Love does not mean abandoning truth.

Love does not lie.

Love does not enable deception.

Love does not tolerate abuse.

Augustine teaches that Love and Truth walk together.

A soul can be loving and firm.

Gentle and clear.

Compassionate and discerning.

This balance is a sign of spiritual maturity.

Love in a World of Fear

The world often operates through fear.

Fear spreads quickly.

Fear influences decisions.

Fear divides.

A soul rooted in Divine Love becomes a stabilizing presence.

Not by arguing.

Not by forcing.

But by remaining grounded.

Augustine teaches that Love calms environments.

It lowers tension.

It opens hearts.

Even when others resist, Love remains steady.

BECOMING LOVE REQUIRES HUMILITY

Humility is essential.

Without humility, Love becomes distorted into pride.

Augustine teaches that humility keeps Love pure.

It reminds the soul:

- Love comes from God
- The soul is a channel, not the source
- No one is superior

Humility allows Love to flow freely.

LOVE AS SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

True leadership is not dominance.

It is presence.

A soul filled with Love influences without force.

Others feel safe.

Others feel seen.

Others feel encouraged.

Augustine teaches that this kind of leadership is desperately needed.

It is leadership rooted in Love.

LOVE DOES NOT SEEK TO CHANGE OTHERS

Divine Love respects free will.

It does not coerce.

It does not pressure.

It does not manipulate.

Augustine teaches that Love offers truth and Light, then allows others to choose.

This is one of Love's greatest strengths.

LOVE AS LIGHT IN DARKNESS

Love does not fight darkness.

It replaces it.

Where Love is present, darkness weakens.

Fear loosens.

Hatred loses power.

Augustine teaches that the world is changed not by resistance, but by Light.

And Divine Love is Light.

Becoming Love Is a Daily Choice

Becoming Love is not automatic.

The soul must choose daily:

- humility over pride
- patience over anger
- truth over comfort
- service over self-interest

Divine Love makes these choices possible.

Prayer sustains them.

The Quiet Power of a Loving Soul

Augustine teaches that a single loving soul can influence many.

Not through force.

Through presence.

Through consistency.

Through faithfulness.

Love spreads quietly.

And over time, it reshapes environments.

REFLECTION

- Do others experience peace in your presence?
- Do you live Love quietly or only speak of Love?
- Are you willing to let Love guide your daily choices?

PRACTICE

Pray today:

“Father, let me become an expression of Your Divine Love in this world.”

Chapter 14 — The Eternal Nature of Love

Everything in the world changes.

Bodies weaken.
Possessions fade.
Relationships shift.
Empires rise and fall.
History turns.
Time moves forward without stopping.

Augustine teaches that the world is temporary.

But Love is not.

Love is eternal.

Because Love IS God.

And God does not change.

Love Exists Beyond Time

Time belongs to the physical world.

But Divine Love does not belong to time.

Augustine teaches that Divine Love existed before creation.

It will exist after all creation.

It is not created.

It is the Creator's Essence.

This is why Divine Love feels so different when it enters the soul.

The soul touches something unchanging.

Something beyond decay.

Something beyond fear.

Something eternal.

Love Is Stronger Than Death

Death is one of humanity's greatest fears.

The mind fears loss.

The mind fears separation.

The mind fears the unknown.

Augustine teaches that death is not the end of the soul.

The soul is eternal.

And Divine Love is the soul's true home.

This is why Divine Love reduces fear of death.

Not because the soul becomes careless, but because it begins to understand:

"I do not belong to the world.

I belong to God."

Love is stronger than death because Love is what remains when all

else passes away.

Love Is the Soul's True Environment

Augustine teaches that the soul was not created to live in darkness.

It was created to live in Love.

The world can feel heavy, chaotic, and painful because the soul is surrounded by conditions that do not match its nature.

But Divine Love restores harmony.

It reminds the soul what it was created for.

When Divine Love enters, the soul feels:

“This is where I belong.”

It feels like returning home.

Love Is the Purpose of Creation

Why does anything exist?
Why did God create life?
Why did God create the soul?

Augustine teaches that creation exists because Love desires to give.

God did not create out of need.

God created out of overflow.

Divine Love is creative.

Divine Love expresses itself through life.

Divine Love brings Light into being.

This means the purpose of creation is not struggle.

The purpose is Love unfolding.

Love Is the Highest Spiritual Law

Many spiritual teachings speak of laws.

But Augustine teaches that above all laws is Love.

Love governs truth.

Love governs growth.

Love governs healing.

Love governs the soul's journey.

Even correction is Love.

Even discipline is Love.

Even purification is Love.

Because God's nature does not shift.

God remains Love.

Love Is What the Soul Becomes

The soul's destiny is not merely to believe in God.

The soul's destiny is to become like God.

Not in power, but in nature.

Augustine teaches that as Divine Love fills the soul, the soul begins to reflect God's essence.

It becomes more loving.

More humble.

More compassionate.

More truthful.

More peaceful.

The soul is being shaped into Love.

This is spiritual maturity.

Love Is the Measure of Spiritual Growth

The world measures growth by achievement.

But God measures growth by Love.

Augustine teaches that spiritual progress is not proven by knowledge.

It is proven by transformation.

How much Love has entered the soul?

How much fear has been removed?

How much humility has grown?

How much compassion flows outward?

This is the true measure.

Love Is the Only Thing You Keep

When life ends, the soul does not take possessions.
It does not take titles.
It does not take wealth.
It does not take reputation.

Augustine teaches that the only thing the soul carries forward is its spiritual condition.

And the highest spiritual condition is Love.

What the soul becomes in Love is what it keeps.

Love Is the Eternal Promise of God

God's promise is not merely blessings.

God's promise is Himself.

God promises Love.

Love that heals.
Love that strengthens.
Love that guides.
Love that restores.
Love that prepares the soul for eternity.

Augustine teaches that this promise is the foundation of hope.

Even in suffering.
Even in uncertainty.
Even in death.

Love remains.

The Soul's Final Rest

The soul's final rest is not sleep.

It is union.

Union with God.

Union with Divine Love.

Augustine teaches that the soul is restless until it returns to Love.

This is why nothing in the world fully satisfies.

The soul was not created to be satisfied by temporary things.

It was created to be satisfied by God.

And God IS Love.

The Final Truth

At the end of all spiritual searching, all religious debate, all worldly striving, the soul eventually discovers one truth:

God IS Love.

And Love is eternal.

This is the foundation.

This is the end.

This is the beginning.

FINAL REFLECTION

- Do you believe Love is eternal?
- Are you living for temporary things or eternal truth?
- Are you willing to become Love rather than merely speak of Love?

FINAL PRACTICE

Pray today:

“Father, let Your Divine Love become my eternal foundation.

Prepare my soul for You.”

About Augustine

Saint Augustine of Hippo (A.D. 354–430) is one of the most influential theologians and spiritual teachers in the history of the Christian Church. His writings helped shape Christian understanding of grace, humility, the nature of God, and the human soul's longing for truth.

Born in North Africa, Augustine spent many years searching for meaning through philosophy, ambition, and worldly pursuits before experiencing a profound conversion to Christianity. His journey, recorded in *Confessions*, reflects a restless soul transformed by the grace of God. He later became Bishop of Hippo, dedicating his life to teaching, writing, and guiding others toward a deeper relationship with God.

His words have endured for centuries, including his well-known reflection:

“You have made us for Yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You.”

The teachings presented in this book are attributed to Augustine through contemporary spiritual communication. They are offered not as historical writings, but as spiritual insights consistent with his enduring emphasis on humility, transformation, and the soul's relationship with God.

Readers are encouraged to approach these teachings with openness, discernment, and prayer, allowing truth to be confirmed through their own experience of God.



About The Author

Ron Henderson has spent more than thirty years seeking a deeper relationship with God through prayer, the study of Scripture, and the pursuit of Divine Truth. Raised in a Christian home and active in church from an early age, his spiritual journey has been shaped by a lifelong desire to know God not only through belief, but through personal experience.

A profound realization that **God IS Love** transformed the direction of his life and ministry. Through sincere prayer for the Father's Divine Love, Ron came to understand that the greatest gift God offers humanity is the inflowing of His Divine Love into the soul—a gift that awakens, heals, and transforms from within. This truth became the foundation of his teaching and the inspiration for The Augustine Teachings: Eternal Knowledge series.

The books in this series are also inspired by the teachings received through Augustine by Divine Love medium Al Fike between 2014 and 2025. These messages, together with years of prayer, study, and personal spiritual experience, have helped shape Ron's understanding of God's Love, the soul's eternal journey, and humanity's spiritual potential.

Ron is the founder of New Birth Ministry and is committed to sharing the message of Divine Love through books, sermons, online teaching, and personal ministry. He also supports outreach efforts that provide these books to those who cannot afford them, including individuals experiencing homelessness and orphanages in Africa and Pakistan. His desire is that people of every nation, culture, and faith may come to know God more deeply and experience the transforming power of His Divine Love.

Ron and his wife, Nancy, live in the mountains of Southern California, where he continues to write, teach, and encourage others to seek a closer relationship with God through sincere prayer and the gift of Divine Love.

The Journey Continues

Book 3 — Compassion

If God is Love, then compassion is one of Love's first expressions within the human soul.

As Divine Love enters and transforms us, it naturally changes how we see others, how we respond to suffering, and how we walk in the world

In the next volume of The Augustine Teachings: Eternal Knowledge, we explore compassion as a Divine attribute, a spiritual strength, and a pathway through which God's Love may be expressed in daily life.

The journey continues...

Final Reflection

If there is one truth that echoes throughout these teachings, it is this:

God IS Love.

Not a distant ruler.

Not a force of judgment.

Not an unknowable mystery.

But the Source of all Love, all Life, and all Truth.

The purpose of this book has not been merely to define Divine Love, but to encourage you to seek it.

For Divine Love is not a concept.

It is an experience.

It is a gift freely offered by God to every soul willing to receive it.

May your journey continue beyond these pages.

May your prayers deepen.

May your understanding expand.

May your soul be transformed.

And may the Love of God become the living reality at the center of your life.

This is only the beginning of the journey.

The journey continues through the transformation of the soul. As Divine Love enters the heart, it naturally expresses itself through compassion toward others. In the next volume, we explore how compassion becomes one of the first fruits of Divine Love active within the soul.

**This is only the beginning of the
journey...**

Book 3 — Compassion

What if the greatest truth about God
is also the simplest?

For centuries, humanity has spoken of God's love.
Yet Augustine teaches something deeper:

God does not merely love.
God IS Love.

In this second volume of *The Augustine Teachings: Eternal Knowledge*, readers are invited to explore one of the most transformative spiritual truths ever revealed—that Divine Love is not simply an emotion or belief, but the very Essence of God, available to every soul who sincerely seeks it.

THROUGH PRACTICAL TEACHINGS, REFLECTIONS,
AND PRAYERFUL EXERCISES, AUGUSTINE REVEALS:

- ✦ The difference between natural love and Divine Love
- ✦ How Divine Love enters and transforms the soul
- ✦ Why fear dissolves in the presence of Love
- ✦ The relationship between Love, Truth, Compassion, and Service
- ✦ How the soul awakens to its true purpose

Whether you are a lifelong seeker, a devoted Christian,
or someone searching for a deeper understanding of God,
these teachings offer a pathway toward spiritual transformation
through the direct experience of Divine Love.

The journey begins with prayer.
The transformation begins with Love.

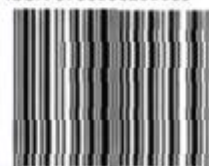
RON HENDERSON

Author of
*The Augustine Teachings:
Eternal Knowledge*

newbirthministry.com



ISBN 9798996299539



9 798996 299539

90000

