

MSG: LOVE SUPREME

Scripture: MATT 5: 43-48 NIV

SZN 1: LOVE LIKE JESUS

Matthew 5:43-48 NIV

“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

INTRO: COLTRANE, A LOVE SUPREME

TEAM, DO NOT INCLUDE THIS INTRO IN ONLINE NOTES**

“While A Love Supreme is a recognized musical masterpiece, it had enormous personal significance for Coltrane. In the spring of 1957, his dependence on heroin and alcohol lost him one of the best jobs in jazz. He was playing sax and touring with Miles Davis, popular group when he became unreliable and strung out. Alternately catatonic and brilliant, Coltrane's behavior and playing became increasingly erratic. Davis fired him after a live show that April.

Soon after, Coltrane resolved to clean up his act. He would later write, in the 1964 liner notes to A Love Supreme, :

"In the year of 1957, I experienced, by the grace of God, a spiritual awakening, which was to lead me to a richer, fuller, more productive life."

-NPR, The Story Of Love Supreme, Eric Westervelt

So how do we then live out this love ethic of Jesus with a genuine sense of radical obedience & yet face the countercultural consequences; being ridiculed, persecuted and constantly misunderstood. I believe by courageously and faithfully living out ...A LOVE SUPREME...Let's learn how:

1. LOVE SUPREME IS CULTIVATED BY PRAYING FOR YOUR ENEMIES.

“Jesus knew that every genuine expression of love grows out of a consistent and total surrender to God.”

-MLK

-A vibrant dynamic prayer life keeps us available to get adjusted or checked.

-Prayer enriches our love for our enemies.

-Prayer helps work out the difficulty of loving difficult people.

-Prayer reminds us of our own brokenness and weakness. This makes us dependent on Him

-Prayer permanently changes us.

2. LOVE SUPRME MAKES US DAUGHTERS AND SONS OF GOD

Matthew 5:45 NIV

“that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.”

“Only by loving our enemies can we know God and experience the beauty of His Holiness”

-MLK

A Love secures you If your insecure, press into your relationship with the Jesus, He affirms you by His loved for us.

“Love is the only source capable of transforming an enemy into a friend”

-MLK

“Love transforms with redemptive power”

-MLK

CHILDREN OF GOD DON'T ACT CHILDISH

-Looking for Vengence, Humiliation or retaliation

-Don't be petty!

PETTINESS MAKES YOU POWERLESS

“We must not seek to defeat or humiliate the enemy but to win his friendship and understanding”

-MLK

3. LOVE SUPREME MAKES YOUR ENEMIES EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF GOD.

Romans 3:23 NIV

“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”

******PAUL’S PARADOX******

“There is some good in the worst of us and some evil in the best of us”

-MLK

Ephesians 2:8 NIV

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—

“In Loving our enemies they are not totally bad....they are not beyond the reach of God’s redemptive Love.” -MLK

**SEE THE IMAGE OF GOD IN EVERYONE,
EVEN IN EVERY EVEMY**

“We love every man because God Loves him”

-MLK

“We must recognize the the evil deed of the enemy-neighbor, that thing that hurts, never quite expresses all that his is . And element of goodness my be found even in our worst enemy”

-MLK

4. A LOVE SUPREME COUNTS IT ALL JOY

James 1:2 NKJV

“My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,”

Count- *hēgeomai* -hayg-eh'-om-ahee figuratively to deem that is consider

Joy -*chara*- cheerfulness, that is *calm delight*

Temptation -*peirasmos* -pi-ras-mos

-a putting to proof, experience.

James 1:2 Greek Translation:

“Consider it all, everything, cheerfulness, that is calm delight to prove, by experiment, you who are of good, to experience, being provoked by evil”

“Returning hate for hate multiples hate, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars”

-MLK

“Hate scars the soul and distorts the personality”

-MLK

“Hate destroy a mans sense of values and his objectivity...It causes him to describe the beautiful as ugly and the ugly as beautiful, and confuse the true with the false and the false with the true”

-MLK

5. LOVE SUPREME PRODUCES PATIENCE

James 1:3-4 NKJV

“knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.”

“Love is the most durable power in the world”

-MLK

“We shall match your capacity to inflict suffering my our capacity to endure suffering, We Shall meet your physical force with Soul Force”

-MLK

“A REVIVAL OF LOVE “

-*Bernice King*

JESUS IS SUPREME

Colossians 1:18-22 NIV

“And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ’s physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation”

-The supremecy of Jesus and His work of reconciliation, gives Him the credibility to show us how to make peace.

-We can also lead in loving our enemies both peacefully and patiently

-This is the model how we love our enemies.

***HE IS SUPREME**

THE SUPREMACY OF JESUS DEFIES THE HATRED OF WHITE SUPREMACY.

THE SUPREMACY OF JESUS DISMANTLES THE THE WICKED IDEOLOGY OF IMPERIALISM & COLONIALISM carried out by evil global leaders, THAT SEEK TO DESTROY AND DEHUMANIZE PEOPLE CREATED IN THE IMAGE OF GOD. Feeble men & women, who do not Fear a Holy and Righteous God, but instead they seek to oppress, harm and kill men, women and children, who God created with beauty, splendor, magnificence and divine intention. God have mercy on Them FORGIVE THEM, They know not what they are doing!

Whether oppressed people of Ukraine, Trans-children in Texas or Black men and women who are gunned down by wicked police officers...all who Jesus bled and died for, to reconcile them back to Himself! Jesus sees you, He is with you and He will Uphold you! And as Dr King so brilliantly asserted:

“You be assured that we will wear you down by our capacity to suffer....We shall so appeal to your heart and conscience that we shall win you, in the process, and our victory will be a double victory”

-MLK

HE IS SUPREME and HIS LOVE IS SUPREME!

****Read Love Supreme, Liner Notes*

"As time and events moved on, I entered into a phase which is contradictory to the pledge and away from the esteemed path. But thankfully now, through the merciful hand of God, I do perceive and have been fully reinforced of His omnipotence. It is truly a love supreme."

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-John Coltrane