

I Am Love

by Jim Davidson

All you need is love.
~ Lennon & McCartney

The phrase kept coming to mind: I am love. It was most clear while I was praying the penitential rosary.

Our friend Jesus has been given many names and titles, including the Messiah, our Saviour, the Christ, the Truth, the Way, and the Life. When one reflects upon the life of Jesus, it is easy to see that Jesus is love. Are you?

I believe we are all capable of being love, of taking on love as our essential nature. It begins when you turn to God and seek to be good. To be good is to love God with your whole heart, soul, mind, and spirit, and to love your neighbour as yourself. More easily written than accomplished, though.

Love is kindness

Love is kind, forgiving, gentle, peaceful, and patient. It is something of an apothegm amongst Quakers that one should not confuse our kindness for weakness. Enduring much vexation and remaining kind requires great strength.

If you review in your mind the suffering of spits, blows, lacerations, bullying, blindfolding, abuse, official sanction by three unjust judges, the scourging (which is whipping with a device that has barbed points on multiple whip ends) at the pillar ordered by Pontius Pilate, the open wound created by that scourging that was especially pernicious, the crowning with thorns, the carrying of the cross, the crucifixion, being made to taste vinegar and gall instead of water when complaining of thirst, and being pierced by the spear of destiny, before breathing out his soul, you get a sense of how strong Jesus was. When you consider that he asked that our Father forgive them, for they know not what they do, his kindness shines through.

Love is patient

Patience is a key aspect of charity and of love. What is patience? It is a willingness to wait.

Quakers have a form of worship service we sometimes call waiting worship. It involves sitting around a room, no one person being in charge or higher or more prominently seated than any other, silently waiting for spirit to move. When someone feels moved to speak, they discern whether the impetus comes from ego, in which case they wait until after worship service, or whether it comes from spirit, in which case that person stands and speaks what they were moved to speak. You might try it some time. It is quite refreshing compared to the other forms of worship service I've observed.

Today I was experiencing a good day for patient activities. The suit jacket that I have worn since 2007 has become threadbare in quite a few places, and torn in some, as well. So I got out needle, thread, and other gear and sewed up the arm which was torn a few weeks back during one of the many tours of VALIANT (voluntaryists & agorists living in absolute non-aggression today) Ozarkia Rockhouse, where I now live full time. Lots of climbing roses, blackberry thickets, and other thorns here.

Before I got the black thread off its spool, God caused the sewing kit to be up ended. Sure enough, there was a better, much stronger spool of black thread about which I had forgotten. Getting the torn arm sewn up, it was then time to pick up the spools of thread.

Five of the spools (if one may count a loaded bobbin as a spool) were tangled together and there was a vast collection of threads, including some loose thread from none of the spools, and a rubber band, all worked together into a complexity. Now, a knot topologist, such as my friend William Baxter, who is chief technologist for Austin-based Vertalo, might say that a spool of thread with a mass of thread at the end all worked together in loops, coils, and throttled loops, is still a straight line, topologically, and perhaps not a "knot" in some senses. Nevertheless, it took some time and quite a bit of patience to separate each of the five spools from the mass.

At the end of this process, there was just one colour of thread from one spool, and unworking its loops and throttled coils wore it so much that it finally snapped. A couple of good pieces of tangled red thread are left, in a nickel baggy, with the clothing tape measure and some other odds and ends. But why not simply cut the mass of tangles away, spool up what is left, and be done far sooner?

Love looks ahead

For several months now, I've been diligently cleaning my plate at every meal. Sometimes I feel moved to say, "Don't waste food, it may be scarce some day." Similarly, don't waste 35-cent spools of quality thread purchased some decades ago, as their price and availability are unlikely always to be ready to hand. We are going through tumultuous times, and many resources will be intermittently scarce.

How did the good stuff we all enjoy go away? As the saying goes, "slowly at first and then all at once."

And how did you survive the thrashing about of the dinosaurs that were killed off by the cataclysms involved? One might liken giant corporations and giant governments to dinosaurs, or to hothouse flowers in that extremely artificial conditions are necessary to their existence. Nevertheless, when big complex systems stop working, they fail in discontinuous and unusual ways. Things fall apart, and that causes cascades of other failures, so that even more things fall apart. Those in power are not immune to these failings, so they issue decrees and mandates and soon enough manage to exacerbate the downfall.

You are coming into a time when electric power from the utility grid may fail. In some places it has failed repeatedly, such as in California during wildfire season in the last few years, in Texas during a recent very protracted winter storm, and in other places.

It is one thing to be without power for a few hours, or a few days. What would it be like to be without electricity for more than a year? How would you do your laundry?

I do my laundry in a clear running stream. God has provided part of the stream, where the water flow is greatest, with limestone outcroppings perfectly suited to laundry day. Yes, it takes time, but without electric power to run devices and without connexion to the communications grid, there's often plenty of time here.

You might try it. Of course, if you live where there aren't any streams, such as in parts of the desert

Southwest, you might not find it easy. Indeed, even in the presence of good streams for the purpose, I find laundry day to be physically challenging. Lots of clothes to walk down the hill to the stream, and heavier wet clothes to haul back up to drive back to the clothes lines. Laundry day is thus defined as "that day when I have one or two clean shirts left." Clean dry clothes sometimes wait for God to apply extra rinse cycles from rainfall, so it is well that Anarchyball sold me a black and gold hoodie for just such situations.

Love conquers all

In the second chapter of the book of Daniel, a dream sent to Nebuchadnezzar is interpreted. A figure with a head of gold, arms of silver, midriff of brass, legs of iron, and feet part of iron and part of clay is completely destroyed by a great stone carved out without human hands which grows to fill the whole world. The statue represents all the many empires, kingdoms, and man-made states of various kinds, including so-called republics. The stone represents love, the love of God, the kingdom of Jesus Christ, the complete decentralisation of everything.

Which brings me to the topic of fifth-generation warfare, which is hinted at in Sun Tzu's book, *The Art of War*. In that book, the greatest skill at warfare is described as winning the war without having to fight a single battle. May we be so blessed, God's will be done, amen.

You've seen what happens to people like Randy Weaver's family or the Branch Davidians who take themselves apart and seek to live their own way. The evil machinations of terribly corrupt, personally vile government operatives always lead to confrontation and murder. Such continues to be the experience of many, such as Duncan Lemp and others too numerous to name.

Therefore the concept of an exclusive, "self-sufficient," and separate community won't work. It will become the target of the same sort of attack.

VALIANT project sites are therefore not exclusive except in that those agreeing to become lot users in a VALIANT community must agree to zero aggression. They are not self-sufficient, because no island really is ever sufficient unto itself, but takes in light from the Sun, fish from the sea, visitors from abroad, and other resources. Nor are they separate from their local region, but integrated to include a farmer's market, self-storage facilities, campground, RV pull-throughs, a restaurant, and other resources that bring in visitors also known as customers.

The goal is that the measurable success of each VALIANT location can be established by profitability, so that the model is sustainable and reproducible. Just one Freedom Land is a target, a million Freedom Lands are victory.

Very recently, God explained the Freedom Land flag: one small white circle (filled in, so a dot) off centre, above and to the right of centre, on a black field. (Field is flag speak for background.) As more VALIANT lands and various other freedom lands get networked together, the number of dots grows, but none are ever in the centre. We are decentralised.

Just weights and measures, fair dealing in commerce, and paying one's workers for their work are all detailed in scripture. God loves free markets. Jesus whipped the money changers and bird sellers out of the Temple because of their corrupt relationship with the temple priests and to purify God's house by shedding a den of thieves. The root of evil is the love of money, or of the state, or of any other thing in

place of the love of God and the love of your neighbour as yourself.

Love will conquer the world and the universe. Not necessarily without conflict, difficulty, and perhaps the occasional firefight. But necessarily and inevitably in the fullness of time.

Love means free the slaves, stop the wars, and end the oppression of tyranny. You'll be glad you did.

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Jim Davidson is a teacher, author, professor of faith, actor, and dancer. He has worked in metal recycling, lawn & pool care, banking, aerospace, real estate software, practice management software, real estate development, health care practice management, software documentation, management consulting, private equity, and non-profit activities. Since 1991 he has been actively in search of a free country and since 1993 has worked on several efforts to build a free country. Yes, he went to Somalia and many other places. Find him in Arkansas working with voluntaryists & agorists living in absolute non-aggression today (VALIANT). Learn about his work at FreedomLandDAO.com and support his work at Subscribestar.com/planetaryjim Your contributions to HoustonSpaceSociety.net are tax deductible to a 501c3 charity.