

'But how may this thing be? It is by virtue of the union of the believer to Christ that the heart of the former becomes the depository of the Saviour's own love for His people. The vocation of every believer is this: to be a revelator of the love of Christ.

"If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." Is it difficult to see why the prayers of Christ's people are not more promptly fulfilled? They do not suffer His word to abide in them, they do not practically recognise their obligation to love one another as He has loved them. Who knows how many priceless expressions of the Father's love toward us are effectually repressed by the fact that we are inattentive to the sweet mandate of Jesus, to give each other His love? We profess to desire earnestly the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, but we shall do well to note that one of the first things which the Holy Spirit will aim to produce in us will be this Christ-like love to the brethren.

'My Christian brethren see not the Saviour with their bodily eye, but I have been commissioned by the Saviour to afford them, in some sense, a compensation for this deficiency. I am commanded to let the love which found exhibition in His mortal person find now its exhibition in my life — a command which would be utterly idle and futile, were it not that He, the ever-loving One, is willing to put His own love within me. The command is really no more than to be a branch of the True Vine. I am to cease from my own living and loving, and yield myself to be the expression of Christ's love.'—George Bowen: *Love Revealed*.

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