**R838 (R104) Rumination for 14 Feb. 2021 by K.C. Ung**

The **T**heme: God is LOVE [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: *God is love.* I Jn. 4:8

The **T**hots:

Today is **V**alentine’s **D**ay. **W**hile the **W**orld **F**ocuses on **V**alentine **L**ove,

let us **F**ix our thoughts on **D**ivine **L**ove this **L**ord’s **D**ay.

1. **The Essence of Love is God** I Jn. 4:7, 8

The very **N**ame and **N**ature of God is Love.

 *God is* ***L****ove* and *love is of God*

Just as He is **L**ove, He is also **L**ight. I Jn. 1:5

 *God is* ***L****ight, and in Him is no darkness at all.*

1. **The Evidence of the Love of God in His own**

Those **B**earing His Name and are **B**orn of Him dwell in **L**ove and walk in the **L**ight.

a. *Every one that* ***L****oveth is born of God, and knoweth God.* I Jn. 4:7

b. *If we walk in the* ***L****ight, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another.* I Jn. 1:7

Those **P**rofessing to know Him but do not walk in Love do not **P**ossess Love I Jn. 4:8

 *He that loveth not knoweth not God*

a. **C**ontinuing Love **C**haracterises those born of God –

 *Every one that lov****eth*** *is born of God, and know****eth*** *God.* I Jn.1:7

 *loveth / knoweth* is in thepresent continuous tense indicating an ever-present **C**ondition.

b. **C**ontrast those who Love not – they never knew God in the first place. I Jn. 4:8

  *He that loveth not knoweth not God.*

 *Loveth /* *knoweth* is in the aorist tense indicating a never present **C**haracteristic,

i.e. they never knew God at any point in the past.

1. **The Exhibition of the Love of God through His own**
	1. **In the New Commandment: Jn. 13:34, 35**

 *A* ***new commandment*** *I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you,*

 *that ye also love one another.*

 *By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples, if ye have love one to another.*

* + 1. The **C**ommandment: *That ye love one another… that ye also love one another*
		2. The **C**omparison: *As I have loved you*
		3. The **C**haracteristic: *By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples*
	1. **In the New Covenant: I Cor. 11:25, NIV**

 *This cup is* ***the new covenant*** *in My blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me.*

* + 1. The **C**ovenant:
			1. Jesus was the **M**ediator of the new covenant. Heb. 12:24
			2. By it our sins are blotted out from **M**emory –

 *For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.* Jer. 31:31-**34**

* + - 1. Through it the **M**an Jesus made possible the forgiveness of sins. Acts 13:38

 *Be it known unto you therefore…that through this Man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins:*

* + 1. The **C**up: it is the **S**ymbol of the New Covenant **S**ealed with His own blood **S**hed for us.

 Hence, in the drinking of the cup, we demonstrate our Love for Him in **R**eturn and **R**emember Him thus.

* + 1. The **C**ommandment: *Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me.*

The Institution of the **L**ord’s Supper is a commemoration of His **L**ove –

* + - 1. The Love of God for us.
			2. The Love of ours for God.

 Thus, *My Beloved is mine, and I am His… I am my Beloved's, and my Beloved is mine:* S of S. 2:16; 6:3

*O I am my Beloved’s and my Beloved’s mine!*

*He brings a poor vile sinner into His “house of wine.”
I stand upon His merit—I know no other stand,*

*Not even where glory dwelleth in Immanuel’s land.*

 [Anne R. Cou­sin](http://www.cyberhymnal.org/bio/c/o/u/cousin_arc.htm%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

**Reflections for the Week R. 838**

1. Today the world celebrates Valentine’s Day.

 According to Wikipedia, Valentine’s Day falls on [February 14](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/February_14). It is the traditional day on which lovers express their love for each other; sending [Valentine's cards](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greeting_card) and candy, often anonymously. It is very common to present [flowers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Valentine%27s_Day_Flowers) on Valentine's Day. The holiday is named after two men, both Christian martyrs named [Valentine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint_Valentine).

 While the world is taken up with Universal Love of a human nature, do reflect on the Celestial Love of a Divine nature in your life and how it should be expressing itself in your walk with God in the world this week.

 See my study on Valentine Love Versus Divine Love at:

 <http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com/main.html> And **REFLECT**

1. This week Love may be in the air as the saying goes. How would you bring Love down to earth to make it meaningful in your dealings with your fellow-human beings?

 Remember Jn. 13:34, 35:

 *A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you,*

 *that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples,*

 *if ye have love one to another.*

 **C**ompare the **C**oncept of Divine Love in **John 3:16**

 with the **C**hallenge of Divine Love in **I John 3:16.**

 The **C**hallenge **C**omes for us to show **C**ompassion. **I Jn. 3:17-19**

**John 3:16**

*God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,*

*that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish,*

*but have everlasting life.*

**1 John 3:16**
*Hereby perceive we the love of God, because He laid down His life for us:*

*and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren*

**1 John 3:17-19**
*But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need,*

*and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him,*

*how dwelleth the love of God in him?
My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.
And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.*

How is your response to this Divine Challenge to you in word and deed? **REFLECT**

**Points To Ponder:** *Valentine Love at best is Superficial and soon Passes away.*

 *Divine Love is Sovereign in Practice and eternally will be our Stay.*