

Call to Obedience # 420
PO Box 299 Kokomo, IN 46903 USA
www.schultze.org

The Passionate Love of Christ

by Reimar Schultze

Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth: for thy love is better than wine (Song 1:2).

Let him smother me with kisses from his mouth... (Song 1:2 CJB).

This may be a little too much for some of you, but it is in the Bible which means it is written for you. Indeed most of us are well acquainted with: *For God so loved the world that he gave...* (John 3:16). From here we easily understand the love of God, universally, intellectually and historically. Let me enlarge upon this.

By universally, I mean that we understand that Jesus loves everybody in the world. *God so loved the world*. But this, Him loving all the world, can give us the impression that since there are 7 billion people on this planet, everyone can only get a little part of that love. Intellectually it is difficult for us to comprehend that Jesus, Who loves the whole world, is also capable of loving each one of us with His whole being and that He is also capable of embracing each one of us at the same time with the entire devotion of the Godhead.

Theologians tell us God is omnipresent, meaning He is everywhere at the same time, and omnipotent, meaning He is all powerful. Therefore He has the capacity to be entirely personal to a depth beyond measure. So, each one of us can tie Jesus up for hours in intimate conversation without Him saying, "Can we cut this short because others are waiting to talk to Me also." We have to read the Song of Solomon once in a while to get a glimpse of how much our Jesus is a one-to-one person: *Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth*.

So, the *public* Jesus is also a *private* Jesus. 'Our' Jesus is also fully 'my' Jesus. And as I need Him daily, He needs me daily. Truly, truly your kissing Him and embracing Him, and Him kissing you and embracing you is a most sacred, delightful and private event. It is His soul wrapping itself around your soul and your soul wrapping itself around His soul. And know my friend, that

this affection one toward another does not only meet a need you have but He has Himself. John describes it as He and you abiding in each other in a perfect union. Paul calls this a mystery hidden for the ages but now revealed: man dwelling in God and God in man. In the Old Testament no one could get closer to God than Jacob did. He wrestled with God all night. That was intimacy. But his connection with God that night was not even skin deep. God never got into Jacob, and He never got into Abraham and Isaac, but He will get into you if you love Him with all your heart. Yes, Jesus is passionately in love with you and He will not let you go as long as you are passionately in love with Him. And he that so loves will do no evil. You will fail at times because of your humanity, but you will not sin because you dwell in God.

But that does not mean you always feel His love. You will much of the time in the spiritual man. But what I'm saying is that every so often God has to turn the light off on your spiritual man, even sometimes for long periods, for the simple fact that faith grows best in the dark. Actually, when you are in the dark, your embrace of Him is tighter. He likes that. It is then when you put your roots down deeper, that you know how much He means to you and how badly you need Him, and how everything of the world is really nothing but dust compared to Him. Do not ever doubt His love in this process. Do not ever cause your grip on Him to loosen up in such circumstances. He will not stop kissing and embracing you when this happens. When He turns the light off, do not take this as a punishment for something that you may have done. He does this to make you stronger. He will be with you as much in the night as in the day, as much in the valley as on the mountaintop.

Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth. Yes, Jesus demonstrated His love towards us 2,000 years ago on the cross. That was wonderful. But we have to go on from there. His kissing you now, embracing you with His love today, that is beyond wonderful, it is beyond extravagant. Friend, let no one tell you that sexual passion is the hottest. Spiritual passion by far exceeds sexual passion in wonder and ecstasy. This spiritual love feast is even what the widow, the eunuch and the unmarried can participate in. They are not left out of the greatest pleasure of the universe.

What happened 2,000 years ago was the deposit for your salvation. But being connected to history does not save you - it is your current relationship that really matters now. Do you have one? Do you take time once in a while to "sit on a park bench" together with Him just loving each other without talk?

Yes, can we kiss without talking once in a while? In this process bonds are deepened, divine treasures are revealed, vision is sharpened, healing and cleansing take place and we are equipped for the next battle. You say: I have no time for the park bench. You have time for what is important to you. Instead you should say: I cannot afford to miss the park bench. You need this more than anything else in the world. It is not a time waster but a time saver, for it will make you bear much fruit and deliver you from a thousand wrong choices.

In His personal farewell to Peter, Jesus asked: *...Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these...* (John 21:15). This is really all He wanted to know from Peter. With that, everything else would fall in place. He asked for three confirmations of his love towards Him to erase his three denials of Him. With that, Jesus now fully had Peter once and for all. This was not only a triumph for Peter but also a great triumph for Jesus. After this, Peter never wavered again. Let your life also become a personal triumph for Jesus where the old is cast into the sea of forgetfulness forever.

Jesus wants a love affair with you, hot, strong and intimate. *Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth.* You say, how can that be? I feel so small. My friend, as a lover of Christ, there is nothing more worthwhile to Christ than you. There is nothing in the world that was created in His likeness and image but man. Do not let your puny stature, your human weakness, your inability to jump a 6 foot fence or to understand astrophysics, your tendency to err, to doubt or misunderstand become your focal point. He created you wonderfully and once born of God and sanctified, you are His “equal” in the sense that He calls you a brother or a sister (Matt. 12:50), that He calls you a joint heir with Him (Rom. 8:17), that He wants to marry you, and that He is not ashamed to share His Throne with you (Rev. 3:21).

He died for you, He lives for you. He has no other pleasures but you. He wants to spend all of His time with you. He wants to do everything together with you. He is jealous of your love. He says of you in the words of Solomon: *My beloved is a bouquet of flowers in the gardens of Engedi...* (Song 1:14 TLB). *My darling bride is like a private garden, a spring that no one else can have, a fountain of my own* (Song 4:12 TLB). You are a garden, a bouquet of flowers and a refreshing fountain to Jesus. You are Christ’s valentine.

Oh, let nothing get between you and Him. Do not allow introspection, mood swings, business and feelings of unworthiness separate you from Him.

Do not get off of His lap. Let nothing draw you away from His banquet table. Remember His love is everlasting. Jeremiah said: *The LORD hath appeared of old unto unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love...* (Jer. 31:3). The Apostle Paul also said: *Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord* (Rom. 8:39). The psalmist also says speaking for God: *But to the saints that are in the earth, and to the excellent, in whom is all my delight* (Ps. 16:3).

My friend, in His love God has created the whole universe for none but us. In His love, He sent His Son, Jesus, to reconcile us to God. In His love, He has come to make His dwelling place in our hearts. In His love, we are being perfected to an everlasting, holy union with Him. No wonder the Apostle Paul makes love the crowning jewel of all his New Testament writings saying if I have not love, I am nothing (1 Cor. 13:2). *Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth: for thy love is better than wine.* Know who you are.

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