



“The Love of God”

Rev. David J. Bauer

I have always been amazed by the depth of God’s great love for an undeserving world. “God so loved the world...” and Jesus “...loved His own, even to the end...” (even Judas evidently). We can only reflect His love and should especially love our spouses even as Christ loved the church (and gave Himself for her...)” But we cannot love anywhere near the love of our Savior, His immeasurable love for us. Five wounds he bore for His children and He keeps on loving us eternally.

. Following a Bible reading calendar, I have read through the Scriptures entirely at least 48 times! I still have all four personal Bibles. They each have a lot of miles on them plus duct tape



Rev. David J. Bauer
Director Emeritus

Frederick Lehman lived Pasadena, California back in 1945. Life was tough for him. Financially he had suffered the loss of all his resources. To make ends meet, he found himself working in a Pasadena packing house. His job was to manually lift and move crates of lemons and oranges, lifting as much as thirty tons each day. Boring, hot and muscle-aching work! But Mr. Lehman was a Christian, who rejoiced in his salvation. On a Sunday evening at church he heard a heart-warming sermon on God’s love. He could not hold himself back. He could not sleep nor rest until he began composing a song.

Oranges and lemons were packed in wood crates made of thin wooded slats. There were constant broken slats, which Lehman picked up and wrote upon, line upon line. By the end of a busy day he had collected quite a few of these broken pieces of wood. He would take them home and put his new song ideas on paper. On an old upright piano he would put these words to the metre and tune of music. Soon he had a complete song – except that he had only two verses. All published hymns had at least three verses back in those days. But when he tried to write a third stanza, the words just would not line up properly.

Upon searching for an idea, he found an old card he had used previously for a bookmark. On the card were the thoughts he could put into words for his final verse. Then he noticed at the bottom of the card in smaller print the story of these words. The words were written on a cell wall some 200 years earlier by a prisoner. Though probably not original, the prisoner penned these words on the wall of his cell that would remind him of God’s great love, whatever the circumstances! In due time the unfortunate fellow died. But the men who were to repaint the cell, found the words and wrote them down. They were now preserved on the card he had saved. With the poem in hand, Lehman went to the piano and began to voice the words to the tune of his song. They fit perfectly. It was a miracle, with the exact metre to fit his melody! The song was finally published with words to the last stanza.

However, when Alfred B. Smith (hymnologist and author of Hymn Histories), further researched the origin of the last verse to this song, Smith discovered an even greater miracle. It appears that the third stanza was originally written in Hebrew around the year AD 1000 by a Jewish Rabbi named Meir Ben Isaac Nehoria. It would appear that God, knowing that Lehman would write a song, chose a Rabbi hundreds of years earlier (though certainly not Messianic) who would possess the skills to graphically paint a picture of God’s love in words. These words would be preserved for years, and then translated into English (a language unknown to the Rabbi in his day) by this unknown prisoner. And he did it in such a way that it fit in the exact metre of Lehman’s melody!

The Love of God by Frederick M. Lehman

The love of God is greater far Than tongue or pen can ever tell,
It goes beyond the highest star And reaches to the lowest hell;
The guilty pair, bowed down with care, God gave His Son to win:
His erring child he reconciled And pardoned from his sin.

When years of time shall pass away And earthly thrones and kingdoms fall,
When men who here refuse to pray, On rocks and hills and mountains call,
God’s love so sure shall still endure, All measureless and strong:
Redeeming grace to Adam’s race—The saints and angels’ song.

Could we with ink the ocean fill And were the skies with parchment made,
Were every stalk on earth a quill And every man a scribe by trade,
To write the love of God above Would drain the ocean dry,
Nor could the scroll contain the whole Though stretched from sky to sky.

Chorus:

Oh love of God, how rich and pure! How measureless and strong!
It shall forever more endure— The saints and angels’ song.

Words of Wisdom

“There are 31,175 verses in the Bible. If you came to the center verse of the Bible, you’d go to Psalm 118:8. If you took the Bible and split it right down the exact center, the verse in Psalm 118:8 would read like this: “It is better to put your trust in the Lord than your confidence in men.” Now, that’s not there by accident, but by incident, put there by God the Holy Spirit!” –Dr. Chuck Svoboda

RECIPES

Cherry Cream Pie

8 Ounces (1 Package) cream cheese, at room Temperature

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup Confectioners sugar, sifted

$\frac{1}{2}$ tsp Almond extract

$\frac{1}{2}$ pint Whipping Cream

1 8" or 9" Graham cracker pie crust

1 can (16 oz) Cherry pie filling

Blend the cream cheese, confectioners' sugar, and almond extract until smooth. Whip the cream until stiff. Fold whipped cream into the cream cheese mixture, being careful not to lose the air in the cream. Pour into the piecrust. Top with the pie filling. Chill for at least 1 hour before serving.

Also works with any type of fruit pie filling, or with fresh or frozen fruit over the cream cheese base.

(Taken from the 2025 Old Farmer’s Almanac)

Helpful Hints

- Throwing lemon and orange peels into the garbage disposal instead of the trash helps give your kitchen that citrus fresh smell.
- Need to clean the gunk out of the garbage disposal? Using a bucket of ice cubes does wonders.
- Don't throw out used butter wrappers, fold them in half (the buttery side in of course) and put them in your fridge. Next time you need to grease a pan, just grab your pre-buttered wrapper and coat the pan.
- Meat tenderizer gets blood out of clothing, and it won't bleach out the original fabric. (Untested!)
- WD-40 removes crayon from ANYTHING, as well as scuffs from ceramic and wood floors.

<https://oursimplehomestead.com/50-household-tips-every-homemaker-needs-to-know/>

Leave a legacy for your family & favorite ministries. When planning a legacy, give Terry L. Balko a call at 404-229-1645 or email Mr. Balko for forms and details at terrylbalko@gmail.com. **Don't let your hard earned life-savings go into a probate bureaucracy! NOT PLANNING is a plan, but it is NOT a very good plan!**

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Bible Related Ministries Newsletter

Fernando Garza, Interim President



2026

*"Who shall separate us from the
love of Christ?"*

-Romans 8:35

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BRM Interims and Associates Engaged in Ministry:

- >Rev. Steve Barack, BRM Associate – Filling the next BRM assignment. Ready to go!
- >Dr. Al Carson, Sr. BRM Associate – Sr. Pastor of Edwards Corners Bible Church, Marcellus, MI
- >Dr. Joe Stewart, BRM Associate – Sr. Pastor of Grace Bible Church, Dallas City, IL
- >Rev. Darwyn Hassert, BRM Associate – Smyrna Bible Church (and vicinity), MI, preaches and assists as needed in nearby areas
- >Rev. Don Zimmerman, Interim Pastor of Western Springs Baptist Church, IL
- >Rev. Jim Vyleta, Interim Pastor of Appleton Community Evangelical Free Church, Appleton, WI
- >Rev. Tracy B McConnell, BRM Associate – Monthly BRM Newsletter publication, Interim Pastor of Portage Bible Church, Portage IN1

On the Lighter Side: "A good living."

A man was driving through the country in his new gas buggy and came to a fence-to-fence mud hole. After some hesitation, he raced his motor and made a run for the puddle. But halfway through, his buggy stalled and sank to the running boards.

As he sat contemplating his predicament, an old farmer showed up with his tractor and yelled, "You wanna get pulled out? I'll do it for \$5!"

The driver thought it was highway robbery, but, having no choice, yelled, "Okay."

The farmer waded in, hooked a chain, and pulled him out. As the man handed him the \$5, he said, "That's a pretty easy way to make a living." The farmer replied, "I wouldn't say it's that easy. I gotta haul the water for this mud hole all the way up from the river." (The Old farmer's Almanac)

BRM Field Report #2

Lee Roupas continued speaking at Lisle Bible Church in January and will continue to do so throughout February.

BRM Associate Steve Barack will be preaching at Griffith Baptist Church in Griffith, Indiana, for the month of February.

A BRM-affiliated retired Pastor will be preaching at Forest Preserve Bible Church at 7430 W. Forest Preserve Ave, in Chicago for the next several weeks.

BRM Associate Tracy McConnell has taken a position as interim Pastor at Portage Bible Church in Portage, IN.

Pastor Dean Monkemeier filled in at the Griffith Baptist Church on January 7th.

Take time to visit any of these churches if you're in the area to say hello to our BRM Pastors who are helping to support the local church.

The BRM office was contacted by two churches in January who are looking for Pastors. Please pray for them and the several other churches in the area that are looking for Pastors, that God will provide godly, trained men to carry on the work of the ministry.

BRM is here for you! As we wait on God to provide BRM with a new Executive Director, Fernando Garza (BRM Interim President), along with Dolores and the BRM Associate Pastors, are working together to fulfill BRM's mission. The phone lines are open and manned. Don't hesitate to call with any questions, needs, concerns, or issues.

Please continue to pray for BRM:

1. For God to provide a new Executive Director
2. For God's wisdom and guidance for the BRM Board