

**1st John # 59**

**“The Ancestry of Love”**

*1st John 3:16; Luke 10:38-42; 1st John 4:7-12; Ephesians 4:17-24*

*“It is natural to love them that love us, but it is supernatural to love them that hate us.”*

**Adversity presents us with a tremendous opportunity to direct our focus away from the adversity and onto the Lord as there’s always a purpose for us to consider which inevitably comes from the justice of God.**

**So, just as we have historical and governmental records, The National Archives & Records Administration, Records of military service, Census data, The Nationwide Gravesite Locator, The US Dept of the Interior, The Statue of Liberty - Ellis Island Foundation and the Library of Congress, all of which, Americans trust wholeheartedly; as believers in Jesus Christ, we have the more sure Word of God that gives us the genuine origin of love which is from God alone, who is love, who is the architect of expressing love and who is the sole revealer of Himself and His loving plan for His creation.**

**The virtue of personal love is always found in the object of love; so personal love is only a virtue when directed toward God and personal love for God the Father is our motivational virtue within God’s plan for His Church.**

**Maximum love comes from maximum truth in the soul, which gives phenomenal response to God’s love.**

**When a believer finally has enough biblical truth in his soul and therefore capacity to love God the Father; then the Father begins to work everything in his life toward the goal of absolute good.**

**Personal love for God is the true motivator for Christian service as we understand that love is initiated through grace, so our capacity for personal love for God is intensified by our orientation to His grace.**

**So, when love emphasizes the object being loved, it’s personal and volatile and when it emphasizes the subject doing the loving, it’s impersonal and virtuous.**