

Ephesians Series

Lesson #187

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Dean Bible Ministries

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Spiritual Skills:
Loving God and Loving Others—Part 2
Deuteronomy 6:5–8; 1 John 4:7–10



EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK
& WARFARE
OF THE BELIEVER

In this lesson:

- **Understanding love**
- **Defining love as “Biblical Love for All Mankind” and “Christian Love for One Another”**
- **The meaning of love demonstrated by God**

What we have already learned:

Basic spiritual skills: the foundation for more advanced skills

What the Bible Teaches About

**Spiritual Skills for
LIFE**



Joy/Inner Happiness/Tranquility of Soul
James 1:3; John 15:11: 17:13

**Personal Love
for God**
Deut. 6:5

**Biblical Love for All;
Christian Love for
Other Believers**
Lev. 19:18; Jn. 13:34, 35

**Occupation with
Christ**
Heb. 12:2; Php. 3:20

Personal Sense of our Eternal Destiny
Col. 3:24; 1 Pet. 1:4

Faith-Rest Drill
Prov. 3:5, 6

Grace Orientation
Eph. 2:8, 9
2 Pet. 3:18

**Doctrinal
Orientation**
2 Pet. 3:18

Walking by the Spirit/Filled by the Spirit
Gal. 5:16

Confession of Sin, 1 John 1:9

Conclusions

- **As the believer learns about God and all God has provided for Him, appreciation increases along with a desire to obey God and serve Him.**
- **Love for God is measured by obedience, not emotion.**
- **Love for God motivates the believer to press on to spiritual maturity.**

#7 Personal Love for God

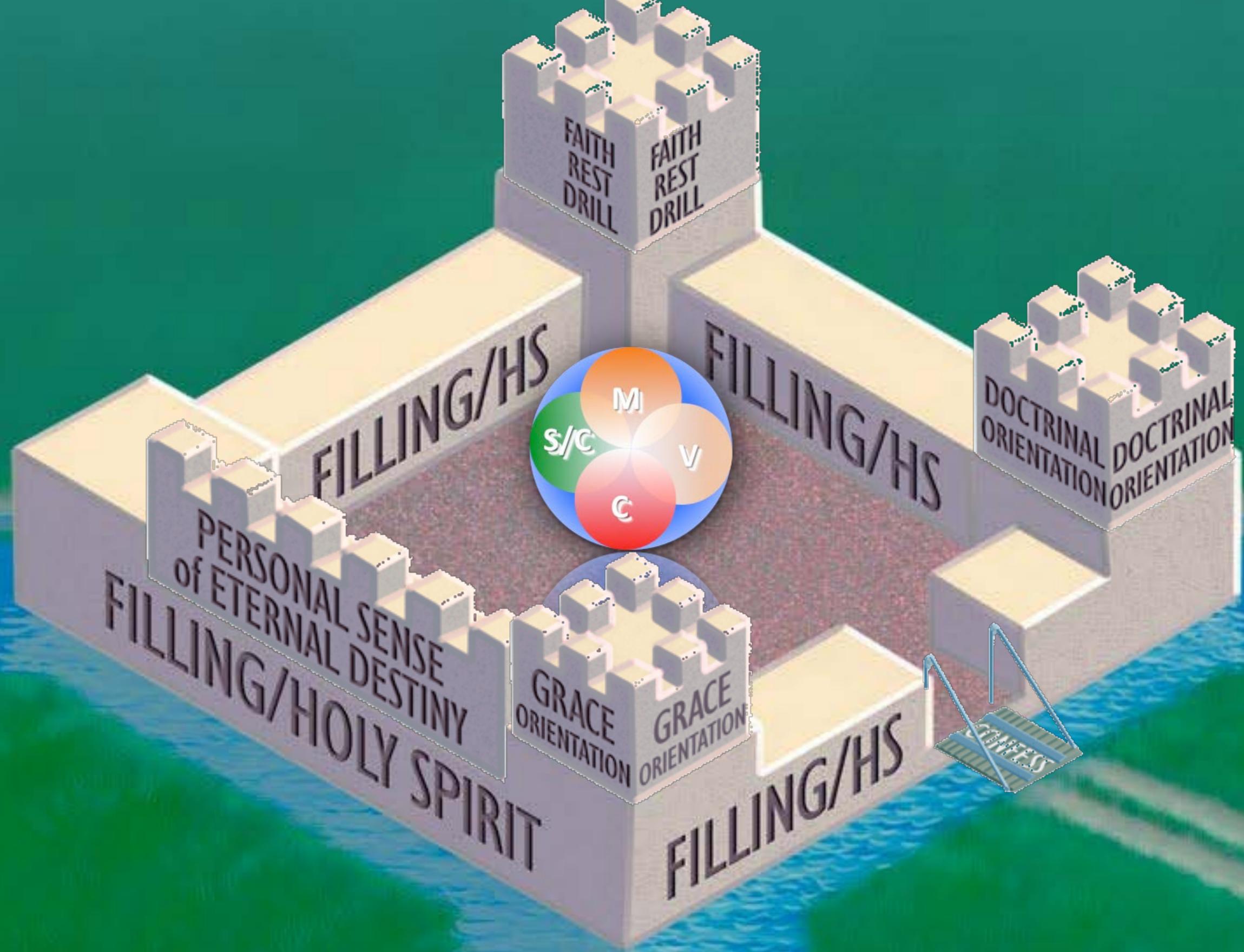
Deut. 6:5, “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.”

Deut. 11:1, “Therefore you shall love the LORD your God, and keep His charge, His statutes, His judgments, and His commandments always.”

#7 Personal Love for God

John 14:23, “Jesus answered and said to him, ‘If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

John 14:24, “ ‘He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father’s who sent Me.’ ”



What the Bible Teaches About

Understanding Love



The connection between these skills:

- 1. Personal love for God.**
- 2. Biblical Love for All Mankind (BLAM)/Christian Love for One Another (CLOA).**
- 3. Occupation with Christ.**

*** The Mosaic Law did not begin the ethical or spiritual absolutes stated there, but encased them in the Law of Israel. This is analogous to their political constitution for the nation. Just as murder, theft, perjury were wrong before the Constitution of the US, they were included within the law of the land.**

*** The summary principles for loving the Lord our God with all of our being is repeated in the New Testament. The *only* one of the 10 commandments not repeated in the New Testament is the Sabbath Law.**

Covenant Theology: All laws of the Torah are still in effect unless they were specifically repealed. This is consistent with their overall theology of one people of God.

Dispensationalism: All of the Mosaic Law was abolished at the Cross; unless commands were repeated in the New Testament, they are abolished. Every commandment of the 10 was repeated except the Sabbath.

1. The starting point for understanding love is God.

1 John 4:8, “He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.”

1 John 4:16, “And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.”

2. God demonstrates His love for us.

1 John 4:7, “Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

1 John 4:8, “He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

1 John 4:9, “In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.

1 John 4:10, “In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

1 John 4:11, “Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.”

1 John 4:7, “Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.”

a. Love originates with God: “love is of God” is a genitive of source indicated by the preposition *ek* (ἐκ τοῦ θεοῦ, *ek tou theou*)

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- a. Love originates with God: “love is of God” is a genitive of source indicated by the preposition *ek* (ἐκ τοῦ θεοῦ, *ek tou theou*)**
- b. Christian love is the context. Love for one another, which is a fruit of the Spirit, manifests when and as a result of walking by the Spirit. The one who loves is**
 - 1. Living as a regenerate person, and**
 - 2. knows God, not soteriological, but in terms of sanctification.**

John 14:7, “ ‘If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him.’

John 14:8, “Philip said to Him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.’

John 14:9, “Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, “Show us the Father” ’?”

1 John 2:3, “Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.

1 John 2:4, “He who says, ‘I know Him,’ and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.”

c. 1 John 4:9–10 are the basis for this point.

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1 John 4:10, “In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

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1 John 4:9, “In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.”

d. God’s love is made manifest, i.e., revealed to us. “That” introduces the way it was revealed: God sent His only begotten Son into the world, for the purpose that we might live.

1 John 4:10, “In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”

e. Verse 10 reiterates: His love is demonstrated through sending His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

1 John 4:11, “Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.”

f. If (since) God loved us in this way, we also ought to love one another.

John 3:16, “For God loved the world in this way: He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

Rom. 5:8, “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

3. An attempted definition:

Love is a mental attitude toward others which desires the best for them according to the standards of God's integrity and acts toward them consistent with that desire and standards.