

Why Choose God?

Often in this world we do comparisons to determine our choices for example the 'pros' vs 'cons' between options for: jobs, cars, homes, moving, churches, friends, life partners, etc. We weigh what we think are the benefits as opposed to the negatives to decide whether or not it's worth the risk though we do make some choices spontaneously without any consideration at all. I think we live in this range of analyzing to spontaneity believing we can figure out what is best or at the very least if we decide something we later regret that 'at least I decided it for myself not because I was forced or shamed into it by someone else'.

So, in this world where we are faced with so many choices that tempt us at every level of our being it can be hard to know which way to go so we don't regret our 'choices' later because we can't see into the future. Thus, the saying 'hind sight is 20/20' or if I could look back, I would change my choices. But since only God is omnipresent and knows the outcome of not only all the choices, we have in our life but what choices we will make and why we choose it.

Yet we are faced with life changing decisions every day and ultimately one choice that has an eternal impact on where we will spend eternity. For that decision there are a multitude of options too. Do you 'deny' the existence of an eternity, God (agnostic) and believe this life is all there is and when you die that is the end? Or do you believe is something 'after' and are bombarded with everything from: a) you are a god, b) you can be reincarnated, c) animals are spirits, etc.

But for all the options there are to choose from yet there is one that stands out not only because it is the only 'true' one but offers something you cannot get anywhere else. A prize or gift that we long for our entire lives (until we receive it) and can never be replaced. It is the 'unconditional' **Love** of God.

You may say I have 'known' that love from others which may be the case if you are referring to Christians (not friends, family, or loved ones) who sacrificially 'acted' to do something for you but otherwise I challenge that assessment because Agape Love comes **only** from God. There are several 'types' of Love we can experience in the Greek there are 4 of note:

- Phileo (friend) Love: Based on friendship. A love based out of the emotions you have for a friend thru relationship. Friends love.
- Eros (sexual) Love: Based on physical love between our partners in life.

This word for love is not used in the Bible.

- Storge (family) Love: Does appear in the Bible but only as 'compound word'.

Based on the special 'bond' a family has for example:

Rom. 12:10 'Be devoted to one another in brotherly (phileo storge).'

- Agape (love) Love: God's Love. Dispassionate or not based on emotions or friendship but rather is related to 'obedience', obeying

God and is related to our love for God and is expressed

in action. Defined by action not 'feeling'. Matt. 5:44

'Love your enemies (not saying have a good feeling about them) and **pray** (action) for those who persecute you. Since defined by 'action' and not based on

'feelings' but obey God concerning them. John 3:16 'For

God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten

Son ...' did God enjoy having His Son die? No, it tore His

heart out but it was His 'Agape' (action) love to make a

way to restore our lost relationship with Him. 1 John

3:16 'And we know love by this, that He laid down His life

for us ...' Again, did Jesus enjoy suffering and dying

(action) for us? No but He did so because of His 'Agape'

Love for the Father and us.

The reason I believe this **Love** is more valuable than anything you can earn, get or find on this earth is because it is an **eternal** gift that originates beyond our beings and can only be 'received' from the One who is 'Love'. To be 'accepted' for who and the way we are and 'loved' (despite all our imperfections and sins). Then as a result of that 'love' to be willing to make the ultimate sacrifices necessary, span eternity and make a way to have relationship with us is more than we could ever deserve and yet is freely offered and given to us. A love not based on us at all but because of who God is and as a result never changing, always the same for all eternity.