



# Divine Love Newsletter

Volume 11, No. 1

January 2025

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## FROM THE EDITORS

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Dearly beloved friends, welcome to the January 2025 edition of the Divine Love Newsletter – a newsletter dedicated to the Divine Love community. We are pleased to bring you inspiring articles and member updates from around the world.

**Ron Shoemaker** reflects on the story of our first parents, Aman and Amon. He shows how they knew that God’s Divine Love was different from their own “natural love” and expected receiving God’s Love sometime in the future. In that sense, they were on the Divine Love path, a path that God had advocated. Initially Aman and Amon were very happy and enjoyed spiritual food to sustain their bodies. After the fall, however, a major shift occurred as their energy and time became devoted to satisfying their physical needs rather than their spiritual aspirations. Ron then describes God’s “Plan B”: the creation of the soul of Jesus who was preordained to receive God’s Love without conscious thought, a soul that in its original state, naturally attracted His Love.

**Lisa Sims** presents part two of her journey following Al and Jeanne Fike, Elizabeth Mack, and Matt Delano on the September 2024 Soul Awakening Tour through eastern US. She befriended some beautiful souls in a Catholic church, and received blessings from the priest. In her gentle but persistent way, Lisa shares the truth with whomsoever is willing to listen. Her inspiring story is one of faith, courage, and perseverance in walking the path of God’s Love and sharing the good news of Divine Love and the Kingdom of God.

**Debra Taylor** gifts us with a beautiful poem, *Growing in Love*.

In Community News, **Judy Gebhart** continued to publish the Padgett messages according to authors or themes. Her latest book, [I Beg You Help Me](#), contains unpublished messages of dark spirits seeking help from James Padgett. **Klaus Fuchs** published a new book in German called [Judas von Kerioth](#) which is a compilation of messages from different mediums. **Lisa Sims** has created Google documents under the title “How to Achieve Oneness with God by Prayer to Receive His Divine Love”. The **DLSF** has launched a [new website](#) to replace their original one. And **Elizabeth Trask** and **Bill Frase** invite you to participate in the ongoing [Soul Manifestation Series](#).

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As we stand on the threshold of 2025, uncertainty may cast its shadow, and the road ahead for our earthly journey may seem unclear. Yet, in the face of an unknown future, God’s love and care for us remain constant – a guiding light in every storm. Let us not be overwhelmed by what we cannot predict or foresee, but instead, turn to prayer with all the sincere longings of our souls. God hears and answers our prayers. Sometimes, we may not immediately recognize His answer or understand His timing. But in letting go of our expectations of how God should answer our prayers, we find peace that surpasses understanding and gives us the strength to navigate challenges with faith. Together, let us embrace the new year with trust in His plan, knowing that we are never alone, and His love and grace will sustain us through whatever lies ahead.

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Past issues of the newsletter can be downloaded from the [Divine Love Community portal](#). Contributions can be emailed to the editors at [editors@fcdt.org](mailto:editors@fcdt.org) (Eva Peck and Michael Nedbal)

## DENIAL OF GOD'S DIVINE LOVE (RON SHOEMAKER)

Why did God deny humankind the privilege of receiving His Divine Love after the first parents decided they no longer needed to depend on Him, and in doing so, declared their independence? I think it is important to notice what the first parents' situation was when they became conscious as Earthlings.

The Prayer referring to humankind in *True Gospel Revealed by Jesus*, Vol. 2, p. 190 states, "That we are the greatest of Thy creations, and the most wonderful of all Thy handiworks, and the objects of Thy great soul's love and tenderest care." The fourth paragraph says, "Let us have such faith as will cause us to know that Thou art our Father, and the bestower of every good and perfect gift".

Regarding their beginning, Amon writes in Vol. 2, pp. 120-123, "We were created by God at the same time, and were ready, just after the moment of our creation, to live the lives of natural beings." So, the first parents didn't have a childhood where they experienced growing to mature adults. Neither did they have parents to guide them through childhood and bequeath them their experiences. Also, in the beginning as Earthlings, while the first parents were alive, no humans had died and gone to the spirit world, so there were no influences from that quarter.

In addition, God gave them a free will which meant they might see things differently from their Creator. What Amon and Aman deemed to be best for them might be at odds with what God desired. Luke wrote in Vol. 2, p. 269, "This may seem unbelievable, but man was created so independent in his great will power, as regards the qualities of thought and desire both spiritual and material, that God never interferes to compel."

Since the Creator is the author of the "good and perfect", the first parents' natural love was without blemish. Jesus in Vol. 1, p. 14, describes the perfect natural love: "The love with which man was endowed, as the perfect man, enables him ... to love God and to love his fellow man as himself, for this natural love is one that in its perfection and nature is universal, and in its exercise every man is his neighbor's brother." This is the love that Amon and Aman possessed that could be their North Star and basis for forming their mindset.

However, another important point needs to be recognized about natural love. In Vol. 3, p. 74, Jesus states, "This love is of a nature that changes with the change in the desires and ideas of man, and has no stability that will serve to keep him constant in his affections." When the desires and ideas of an individual change, the focus of their natural love may also change. For example, the capacity of a person to forgive or feel compassion for another may not always be constant.

Because of their spiritual orientation, the first parents were able to recognize characteristics that they had in common with their Creator. Aman writes in Vol. 2, p. 120, that in their beginning as Earthlings, "We were like Him in our possession of souls and also in the possibility of obtaining the Divine Love." With the possibility of receiving their Creator's Love, it sounds as though they realized that His Love was different from theirs and that they were primed to receive that Love sometime in the future. Because of the hope and expectation that God's Love would become theirs, the first parents were on the Divine Love path, a path that God had advocated.



Referring to their living conditions, Aman says, “I and my soulmate lived in a paradise which God had given us, and were very happy until the great fall.” For Amon, her feeling was (Vol. 2, pp. 121-123), “Before our fall we were very happy in our conjugal love, and knew not troubles or worries of any kind, and never had anything to make us afraid or draw us apart from each other or from God.”

Wherever they first resided, Amon and Aman must have experienced it as very beautiful and peaceful. Being happy in their conjugal love, they would have enjoyed one another’s company and the surrounding environment. Apparently, nothing disturbed their relationship to one another or their God. This seems to have been a time of leisure, relaxation, and hope. With the possibility of obtaining the Great Soul’s Divine Love, they could focus their time and energy on that expectation.

This also seems to have been a time when their spiritual needs were met. Aman mentions the “spiritual food” that helped their spiritual nature stay active and healthy. Because their spiritual nature was alive and dominant, they were able to keep their physical appetites at bay. As long as this was the case, they could maintain their hope and expectation that the Deity would bestow on them His Love. When He would do this, they did not know, only that He would. They were to wait until God decided the time had come. Aman explains (Vol. 2, p. 120), “The disobedience was in not waiting for God to bestow upon us the great Divine Love that would make us like Him in substance as well as image.”



Amon and Aman knew what their Creator expected of them. For them, the Divine Love Path was waiting until the time came to receive His Love. The spiritual food that God made available seems to have been beneficial in subduing their animal appetites. But after their fall, Aman shares, “but no more could we be satisfied with the spiritual food that had supplied our wants and enabled us to subdue the appetites which formed a part of our physical being.” Their physical appetites then came to the fore and became more influential, subduing the first parents’ spiritual qualities. No one seems to know how long Aman and Amon lived with their spiritual natures dominant, but at some point they became tired of waiting. Amon writes (Vol. 2, pp. 121-123), “Well, I was as much to blame as was Aman, but I did not entice him after I had the ambition to become immortal without waiting till that time came when God would give us that quality of His own nature; but our ambitions grew together and we discussed the matter of making the great effort between us, and acted as one in trying to obtain this great immortality.”

When Amon and Aman became impatient, their desires and ideas changed. They no longer felt the need to wait for God to bestow His Love and decided to form a new plan to make them immortal. Amon writes that “because of our ideas of our greatness and power and want of dependence on God we fell”. Aman adds, “We were so filled with the thought that we were all powerful and all wise, that we concluded that the obedience which God had required of us was not necessary for us to observe, and that if we only exerted our powers, we would be as great as He is great, and would be able to obtain that immortality which He possessed.” He continues, “I thought that if I could obtain these qualities, I would become a God and a co-equal with my Creator, and hence the possessor of all the universe, and of all power and knowledge that He had.”



With the coming of these new desires and ideas, the first parents decided to depart from the Divine Love path which God had provided – the path where they were primed to receive His Love and where there was every hope that this would come to fruition. But they no longer felt the need to be dependent on God. With their perceived greatness and power, they thought they could obtain by their own efforts the immortality they saw that God possessed.

So the first parents chose to abandon the Divine Love path that God had advocated. They opted for a new path of their choosing. It wasn't God who changed, it was Amon and Aman. Because of the way they perceived themselves, they declared their independence from God. No longer did they need to listen to or seek His help or guidance. No more was their energy and time devoted to their spiritual needs and the expectation that their Creator would provide them with His unique nature and immortality. The first parents believed they could become immortal by their own efforts.

In the New Testament Revelations received by Dr. Samuels, Revelation 3, Part 2, Jesus comments on the disobedience of the first parents, “the first parents were given a free will to use their soul desires as they wished and the result of these desires showed that purity of soul was not a protection against contamination, and the disobediences and transgressions that followed were not merely the aberrations of the first parents, but those also of, and intensified greatly by, the children, until evil became a force that proved more powerful than purity”. He goes on to say, “pride and arrogance and independence were the first sins that entered the soul of men and defiled it.”

In TGRABJ, Vol.1, p. 288, writing through Padgett, Jesus comments on what the first parents had done: “But after the first disobedience, ... succeeding disobediences became easier; and as these disobediences occurred, man lost to a great extent the desires for the spiritual things, and as the animal or physical part of his nature asserted itself, ... he indulged them beyond their proper functions, and increased such indulgence, until he commenced to find, as he thought, more pleasure, in such indulgence, than in the thoughts and exercise of his higher nature,” and the aspirations which belonged to it.”

With their declared independence, Amon and Aman chose to abandon the world that God had gifted them, where their spirituality was dominant and they were primed to receive His Divine Love. With the spiritual food from God before their disobedience, they were able to keep the appetites of their physical nature at bay. The food that is today necessary for our physical bodies was apparently not necessary for Amon and Aman before their fall. After their disobedience, their physical appetites came to the fore, filling the vacuum left by their declining spirituality.

This became a major shift as their energy and time became devoted to satisfying their physical needs rather than their spiritual aspirations. Thereafter, their children would no longer be born and raised in an atmosphere where they were primed to receive God's Love. They would be entering a world dominated by the need to satisfy their physical appetites. The spiritual food that once supplied their needs was no longer adequate. Food for their physical nature now became paramount.

Aman writes (Vol. 2, pp. 120), “And so we became mere mortals, deprived of the potentiality of obtaining the Divine Love, and we had thereafter become subject to all the appetites of the natural man and had to work to satisfy these natural appetites.” He goes on to say that they continued to reside in the same place as before,



Image by Gencraft

“but no more could we be satisfied with the spiritual food that had supplied our wants and enabled us to subdue the appetites which formed a part of our physical being.” As their physical appetites grew, food became important in a new way as the use of their time and energy shifted. The result was “we had to work in order to make the earth supply us with food for our physical wants.”

As the bestower of every good and perfect gift, God had bequeathed Amon and Aman a perfect world which they described as “paradise” and where conditions were such that they knew they possessed souls like their God, souls that could provide His Love a place to lodge and manifest.

They were to wait until such time as the Great Soul chose to convey to them His Love. But when they became impatient, Amon and Aman were like the students who leave the classroom before the lecturer has completed the presentation. They were confident they knew what the lecturer was going to say and what conclusion would be reached. In their eyes, there was no reason for them to stay and listen. But when it came time to graduate, the first parents found they were left wanting.

In New Testament Revelations, Revelation 3, Part 2, Jesus writes, “Although it was God who withheld the possibility of man’s obtaining the Divine Love after his fall, man’s condition became such when sin entered that the Divine Love could not be sought for in that, in his pride and independence, he willed that it should be removed as an indication of God’s protecting influence. When man sinned because of his desire to be independent of God, he showed God that he did not want God’s help in his progress through life as a mortal.”

And so, Aman continues with this lament (Vol. 2, pp. 120), “It was a bitter time of sorrow ... [we], had to live thereafter without the possibility of obtaining this Divine Love and of having our spiritual natures reassert themselves over the physical, and subdue it.”

Because of the first parents' failure to cooperate with God in His desire to bestow on them immortality, the Father’s plan failed. What to do? How could He demonstrate to humankind that they were the “objects of His great soul’s love and tenderest care” when they became impatient and no longer wished to cooperate?

Toward this end, the Great Soul implemented a new plan, a “Plan B”, that would provide humankind with a second opportunity to receive His Love and immortality. Rather than having a soul wait until God saw that the time was ripe for bestowing His Love, He would create at least one soul that would naturally attract His Divine Love – a soul that in its original state would be capable of providing a place where His Love could lodge and manifest its qualities.

In a message received through Dr. Samuels titled, “Jesus Was Constituted in Soul at Birth, to Become the Messiah”, copyright 1962, Jesus writes, “It was not foreordained that I should become the Messiah except that I was constituted in soul at birth for that mission and determined upon the mission by my own free choice”. He continues, “At birth God did not deliberately bestow upon me the Divine Love, but I received some small portions of it into my soul because my soul, constituted in a way to understand the meaning of God, as others understand great art, science or literature, experienced longings for the Divine Love without my being aware, as a child, that this was actually taking place, and it was only later, ... did I have an understanding of what was happening.” In Vol.1, p.18 Jesus explains, “for in my communions with the Father there came to me not only the Divine Love which transformed my soul into the substance of the Father in its love qualities, but also the knowledge by which this Divine Love might be acquired and the certain way to the Celestial Kingdom”.

After reading the above, I wondered if there were other souls that were predisposed to receive Divine Love. There are souls predisposed to understand great art, literature and science, why not souls gifted to understand and receive Divine Love without conscious thought? Amon and Aman were apparently not predisposed to receive Divine Love unconsciously the way Jesus was.

In Vol. 1, p. 31, Jesus continues, “Our first parents were the children of God – His own creatures – good and perfect, and after their fall they became no less His children, for His love was so great for them that in the fullness of perfection of His plans he again bestowed upon them the privilege of receiving His Divine Love, and sent me to proclaim the fact and to show man the way to obtain that great love.”



Image by Gencraft

With “Plan B”, God created a soul that was preordained to receive His Love without conscious thought, a soul that in its original state, naturally attracted His Love. In this way, God was able to plant His Love in at least one human soul which the first plan wasn’t able to accomplish.

Jesus didn’t have to tell others about his experience of receiving Divine Love. He freely chose to tell the people of his time the “Good News”. He could have chosen to continue working in his father’s workshop with the hope of inheriting the business, getting married and having a family, with the expectation of living a comfortable life of a normal Palestinian. But he didn’t. He chose to become the Messiah and spread the “Good News” that God had once again made His Love available to all humankind.

The first parents were not burdened by the sins of their parents because they had no parents. They were on the Divine Love path in that they were to wait until God decided to bestow His Love to them. They were primed to receive the gift of Immortality. Whether they would have developed a sincere and earnest longing for His Love, causing it to enter and begin their transformation, is impossible for us to know. But with “Plan B”, the Great Soul made sure that His Love would find a lodgement in at least one soul. Jesus became the Messiah because he chose to share his transformational experience with the people of his time.

## **FOLLOWING THE FOUR HAPPY TRAVELERS ON THE DIVINE PATH – PART 2 (LISA SIMS)**

*Editor’s note: In the November issue, we featured Lisa’s adventures in following Al and Jeanne Fike, Elizabeth Mack, and Matt Delano from gathering to gathering on the September 2024 Soul Awakening Tour. We are continuing her stories from Canada and from Detroit on her return trip.*

### **Marmora – Audience with a Priest**

The Father had me in the local Catholic church, "Sacred Heart of Jesus," before I could meet anyone from the retreat.

After I located the retreat house, I drove around the perimeter of the small town and turned down a road through the forest which came back into the town next to an imposing Catholic church. I turned into its front drive for no apparent reason at 7:45 am, and saw *the black squirrel* which I had wanted to see the whole trip. It stayed with my car on the grass and then jumped into a tree to show itself off as I slowly followed it toward the church.

I looked around and saw the single human occupant of the parking lot – an elderly, heavy, hunched- over woman getting her walker out of the back of her car. I rolled down my window and pulled up beside her. After I complimented their black



squirrels, we had a cordial discussion of what each of us were doing here. When I heard she had come for one hour of silent prayer before Mass, I said, "I should come in and pray with you."

As we entered, she told me I could bless myself with the "holy water" which I did. A handful of others were in there praying including a black man and an Asian woman, both of whom smiled at me. We sat down in the second pew.

I stayed for one hour of silent prayer, one hour of Mass, and one more hour of silent prayer during which people went to confession. During the Mass, two apparent priests – a middle-aged man of color and an older white gentleman – shared duties from separate pulpits. It was the latter that I would later meet.



Ethel (the lady I met in the car park) told me to cross my forearms across my chest during communion and the priest would give me a blessing (because I couldn't take communion). The priest lit up (as did I) when he gave me his hand wave cross blessing.

After church, Ethel invited me to her home. She fed me oatmeal with yogurt, wanted to hear all about what I was doing in my retreat, and listened to my presentation of the Second Coming Messages. She also received a prayer slip, as did her nurse (a minister's daughter, "not really interested in religion") who came to do her therapy.

I stayed with her until my first retreat prayer circle was scheduled to begin at 1 pm. We talked Bible and theology while she reclined in her chair. When I offered to let her hear the recorded message from Augustine's Q & A from the previous day, she said, "Oh, no!" and jokingly pretended to be shaking holy water on her head. I quickly changed the subject by asking her to say the rosary for me. The film version that she cast to the TV included "The Sorrowful

Mysteries of Jesus" and took 30 minutes!

The next day, Saturday, I went back to the church for 4 pm silent prayer and 5 pm Mass. While waiting in the church parking lot for the time to arrive, a car pulled in and I met Jennifer, a cheerful and mature woman who said she was between houses and staying with friends in Marmora. She was immediately concerned about me staying in my car on the trip and suggested all kinds of options for me. She finally gave up and said, "Well, I guess we're both homeless!"

After Jennifer went into the church, I finished what I was working on and headed in. When I rounded the corner to the front entrance, the priest was meandering around on the big concrete entrance slab waiting to greet early arrivals. I extended my hand and introduced myself.

We had a thorough discussion about the Divine Love Movement, The Messages ("The theology is a bit different.") and the Re-birth before anyone else showed up. I gave him the prayer slip ("This is how you can access the Messages.") and told him I had prayed to get an audience with him to introduce him to the Messages. He said, "Well, God does answer prayers." I

said, “Yes, if we can remember to ask.” He is a lovely and bright soul. During the Mass, I sat between Jennifer and Ethel and got my sign of the cross blessing again.

On Sunday I missed the 10 am silent prayer and 11 am Mass because of the prayer circle at the retreat, but attended Monday’s 8 am silent prayer and 9 am Mass on my way out of Marmora.

I think the priest liked my Second Coming Messages presentation from Saturday. He trained/tested me on Sunday by ignoring me for my blessing while I was standing with my forearms crossed in the pews with Ethel as she received the wafer. I understood that he expected me to come up to the altar rail and kneel to receive my blessing with the other parishioners receiving communion, which I did. I believe he was pleased with me because after he blessed me with the sign of the cross, he beamed at me and did a touch push on my forehead. His version of a fist bump, I guess. I loved it!

**The Trip Home: The Detroit Talker**



Photo by Lisa Sims.

After a successful border crossing back into the US, I pulled up to the Detroit Riverside Market. As I was stepping out of the car, a (homeless?) young black man, dressed in black, accosted me for a donation for a “bus trip.” I asked how much his bus trip cost and that started him on a lengthy discourse. Without responding to his request, I said, “Do you want to hear a message about God?”

That switched his topic to his church, and strange things, material and spiritual, that had happened to people he knew during their baptisms. When he took another break, I said, “Do you want to hear the message?” He said, “yes.”

He listened intently and got the fist bump before resuming his baptism discourse while following me

back to the car clutching the prayer slip. I gave him the original requested donation (after covertly re-locking the car door) and said, “Do you want a hug?” He did.

He followed me back toward the store, prattling on, while the wind began to pick up and the sky to darken. I suggested he put the prayer slip in his pocket so it wouldn't blow away and get lost, but he didn't hear me. At one point he stopped talking and asked, “How do you *do* this prayer?” That was an intelligent question that I hadn't heard before. I gave him what instructions I could before excusing myself to go into the store.

My dream prayer tour trip has ended but my life has begun anew. I'm eagerly anticipating many new adventures with God and His ministering spirits – and the next prayer tour!



Photo by Lisa Sims.

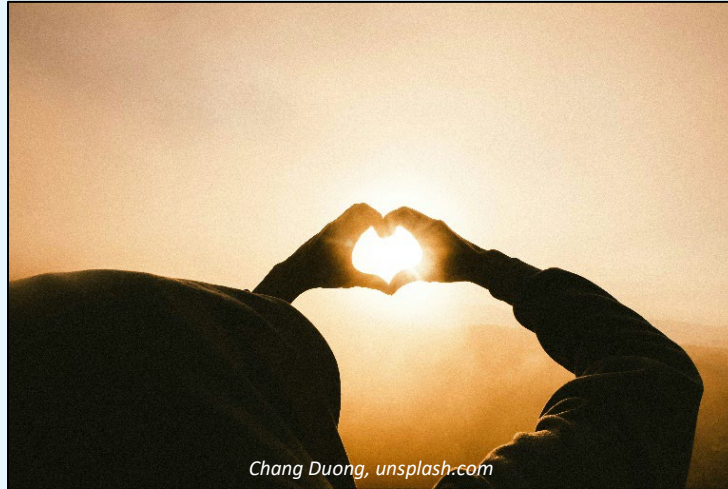


**POETRY CORNER (DEBRA TAYLOR)**

**Growing in Love**

We pray with fervor  
 To be a server  
 Of the light  
 That gave us life.

The angels high  
 Through portals fly  
 Their sacred words  
 We have now heard.



Chang Duong, unsplash.com

In love we grow  
 In light we glow  
 Our souls awake  
 For heaven's sake.

Together rise  
 With sparkling eyes  
 Spread joy and love  
 From God above.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

- **Judy Gebhart** has continued to publish the Padgett messages grouped according to authors or themes. Her latest addition, book #12 in The Saddle Maker Series, is entitled [I Beg You Help Me](#). It is a continuation of the unpublished messages of dark Spirits seeking help from Mr. Padgett that were published in the book [Help Me I Beg You](#). These messages were transcribed in the late 1970s by Francie Shoemaker and most had not been previously published. They show how important it is to nurture our souls and start praying for God’s Love while still on earth. All of Judy’s published and planned books can be seen at [Julin Productions](#).
- **Klaus Fuchs** published a new book in German called *Judas von Kerieth*. It is a compilation of messages from different mediums. Besides being available on [Amazon](#), a free PDF copy can be downloaded from Klaus’ [website](#).
- **Lisa Sims** has created Google documents under the title “How to Achieve Oneness with God by Prayer to Receive His Divine Love” with the Padgett/Samuels Message quotes that are being emailed by Elizabeth Morana of FCNB. The up-to-date documents can be accessed and downloaded from the below links (Lists 5-7 are for future use). References are to the four-volume book set *True Gospel Revealed Anew by Jesus*, first and second printings, the two versions of *New Testament Revelations of Jesus of Nazareth*, and the online messages posted on Geoff Cutler's [New Birth](#) website. [List 1](#); [List 2](#); [List 3](#); [List 4](#); [List 5](#); [List 6](#); [List 7](#).
- **DLSF’s original website with the Divine Love Community Forum** has been retired on January 1, 2025. A labor of love, this site served the Divine Love Community for over a decade. The Foundation’s new online home is now [here](#). Visitors are welcome to connect and learn more about Divine Love and its transformative power.

**INVITATION TO THE SOUL MANIFESTATION SERIES (BILL FRASE AND ELIZABETH TRASK)**

**Elizabeth Trask and Bill Frase** invite you to participate in the ongoing [Soul Manifestation Series](#) if you would like to experience greater self-love and develop your capacity to manifest more of your soul's desires, gifts, and potentials through receiving and expressing the Source's Essence of Divine Love. The next round of the four-week series begins on January 7, 2025. We have an open-door policy regarding registrations to meet people where they are with allowance for their commitments and circumstances. Those interested are welcome to register at any time. There will be new tools, discussions, and 'home-play' invitations with each session. The multiple rounds of the series are designed to build on each other, in that soul exploration and desire clarification is an ongoing process of growth and development. New participants will receive

access to previous edited session recordings, home-play invitations, and trance-channeled message transcriptions. These resources will allow them to ease into the flow of the series in ways that are supportive of each individual journey. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

## DIVINE LOVE RESOURCES

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For details on how to receive a free box of FCDT books for distribution; where to find foreign language translations of the Padgett messages; and a listing and accessing messages of all our contemporary mediums, go to the [FCDT website](#). This webpage also has a comprehensive Resource Guide of Divine Love websites, forums, you-tube and audio ministries, book authors, Facebook groups, and more. Please email [Holly](#) directly for information on books for distribution.

To request a flash drive of all the scanned Padgett messages, please contact the [Foundation Church of the New Birth](#). The 64G flash drive contains both autographs (originally written messages), as well as manuscripts in Padgett's handwriting and sometimes in Dr. Stone's handwriting. Donations to help cover costs are welcomed.

[The Foundation Church of the New Birth](#) is emailing daily inspirational excerpts from the Padgett messages. If you'd like to receive these mailings, go to their [Contact / Sign Up](#) page, scroll down to "E-mail Subscription," fill in your email address, and click "Send."

## PRAYING AND SHARING ACROSS THE MILES

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### DLSF / FCDT Circles of Light and Other Opportunities for Prayer, Sharing and Learning

Click [here](#) for the DLSF-sponsored Circles of Light information. If you would like to receive weekly information about new and upcoming programs as well as regular online prayer circles, please [sign up for the weekly calendar](#) which is sent out on Sundays via Mailchimp. For any questions, please contact [Jeanne](#). Information on other activities, including additional online prayer groups, Divine Love healing or learning, as well as gift or leadership development can be found on the [LightBringers Calendar](#) administered by [Bill Frase](#).

You're invited to the new NOTA (None of the Above) Circle of Light on Discord held on Mondays, 12:30-1:30 pm Eastern US time. Using live, real-time voice chat, a brief explanation and guided prayer are offered to help those unfamiliar with the practice of praying for God's Divine Love. After the prayer, participants share their experiences. These conversations have been inspiring and rich with a diversity of perspectives. For more information and how to attend the Circle, please see the [LightBringers calendar](#) or email [Bill Frase](#).

## PADGETT MESSAGE EXCERPT

[TGRABJ, VOL. 1, P. 232](#)

*What men can do to eradicate war and evil from men's souls. Jesus never came to bring a sword but to bring peace through his teachings.*

I am here, Jesus.

I desire to say that I was with you tonight at the church, and listened to the preacher's (Dr. Mitchell) sermon, and was somewhat surprised that he should have declared that all the wars and persecutions and outrages that, in the manner described, have been perpetrated on mankind since my coming, can be ascribed to my coming and my teachings. I, of course, can only resent the imputation and declare that the preacher has misconceived the cause of these wars and persecutions, and to charge that they are due to my truths or the truths that I taught, is not only an injustice to me, but a great injury to the truths and objects of my mission to mankind. Never did I attempt by force or constraint to compel a human soul to believe in my truths, or to become a follower of me, in or out of the church.

My mission on earth was to show men the Way to the Father's Love, and to declare to them the Great Gift of this Love, and also to break down and destroy the erroneous beliefs and ignorance that then existed among men as what was necessary, in order to seek for and obtain this Love of the Father and their own salvation. And so far as the truths, moral or spiritual, which I taught, antagonized the false beliefs and practices of men, there was and necessarily would be a conflict in the thoughts and lives of those who followed me and those who persisted in their existing beliefs. To this extent I brought a sword into the world, but it was not the sword that called for bloodshed and murder and persecutions. It was the sword that pierced men's souls, where this great conflict should and must be fought to the end.

No nation can be more spiritual in its government or in its treatment of other nations, than are the individuals composing it, spiritual. The nation cannot be greater than or different from the individuals who control it, be such control centered in one or more individuals, or in a secular or religious head. The ruler, if he be not a real follower of me, although he may claim to be, cannot in his acts or deeds, attribute to me the results of the carrying into action his thoughts and desires and ambition.

The present war, of which the preacher spoke with such horror and lamentation, is not due to my coming into the world as an iconoclast or destroyer of sin and error, but to the fact that men refused to be controlled or persuaded by my doctrines of peace, and acted because of the sin and evil desires and immoral ambition that they possessed and permitted to control them. The sword which he claims I brought into the world did not cause these sinful and inhuman desires and ambitions to manifest themselves in the form of war and all the evils that follow it. No, this war is not a part of my warfare or the plan of the Father to bring salvation to mankind.

The cause is this and only this: The exercise by men in control of the nations of their desires for increased power and territory and subjugation of nations, together with their sinful cravings for what they call glory and unsatisfied ambition. Had they understood my warfare, each of these men would have found his enemy in himself and no where else, and the great war would be a war of the soul and not the war of nations.

Each nation claims that its war is right and that God is on its side, and prays to that God to assist it in overcoming its enemies. But I want to say here, and it may astonish those who believe that if they conceive that they are in the right and pray to God for success that their prayers will be answered, that God hears only the prayers of the righteous, or of the sinner who prays for mercy and salvation. Never in all the history of mankind has God responded to the prayers of men or nations to assist in the destruction of other men or nations, and this, notwithstanding the accounts in the Old Testament of the many times that he was supposed to have helped the Jews to destroy their enemies.

If men, for a moment, will think that God is a God of Love and that all people are His children, the equal recipients of His Love and Care, they will realize that His Love would not permit Him to sacrifice the happiness or well being of one class of His children to satisfy the desires of revenge or hatred or outraged justice as they conceive it, of another class of His children. In all the beliefs of this kind, men have misconceived God and His Nature - with men like other creatures His powers are governed by God's immutable Laws, and those laws are no respectors of persons. Man was given a free will which he could exercise righteously or sinfully and God does not forcibly control such exercise, but the same exercised rightly or wrongly is subject to law, which imposes penalties or rewards according as the law is violated or obeyed.

This war, which so many mortals believe and declare is a punishment inflicted on men because of their sins and disobedience - that is, that it was specially caused by God because of such condition of men - and some expounders of the Bible teach that it was prophesied centuries ago - this war, I say, is solely the result of the sinful conditions and workings of men's souls and thoughts, and the natural effect of the causes that men themselves created, and the exact workings of the laws that such causes brought into operation. And in a similar condition, where the same causes exist, laws will invariably operate, wars will occur and recur until the possibility of the causes cease to exist.

God never ceases to love and care for mankind and always He desires that men shall be happy and at one with Himself, and that they shall exercise their wills in accordance with His Will and His Laws; but just as certainly does He never by compulsion or force endeavor to compel men to exercise their wills in a manner that is not voluntary with them. Should He do this, men would cease to be the greatest of His Creation and incapable of giving Him that voluntary love and obedience which only is acceptable to Him.