

Love is a universal language that pierces through all times, places and people. It can overcome the greatest of mountains and deepest of oceans. It is not limited to a single word, feeling, act or moment. It is infinite and beautiful - Love is the beginning of creation as well as end.

It can make you achieve something great or make you crazy and lead to chaos and destruction. We all desire love as children, spouses, parents, colleagues or friends. When we feel loved, life is beautiful, the world looks bright. When we don't, we struggle and the world looks dark.

Love is a grain that originates from Allah and grows with our parents & spreads to others. But during the journey of life we begin to love ourselves more, our desires, wealth, power and Dunya more than Allah.

فَقَالَ إِنِّي أَحْبَبْتُ حُبَّ الْخَيْرِ عَن ذِكْرِ رَبِّي - وَإِنَّهُ لِحُبِّ الْخَيْرِ لَشَدِيدٌ - وَتُحِبُّونَ الْمَالَ حُبًّا جَمًّا

We take the pure unadulterated love and taint it with something ugly. Often on this journey we forget the love infinite the love of our Creator, His Beloved, His Deen.

**زَيْنَ لِلنَّاسِ حُبُّ الشَّهَوَاتِ مِنَ النِّسَاءِ وَالْبَنِينَ وَالْقَنَاطِيرِ الْمُقَنْطَرَةِ مِنَ الذَّهَبِ وَالْفِضَّةِ وَالْخَيْلِ الْمُسَوَّمَةِ وَالْأَنْعَامِ
وَالْحَرِّ ذَلِكَ مَتَاعُ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَاللَّهُ عِنْدَهُ حُسْنُ الْمَا
بِ وَمِنَ النَّاسِ مَن يَتَّخِذُ مِن دُونِ اللَّهِ أَنَدَادًا يُحِبُّونَهُمْ كَحُبِّ اللَّهِ**

Allah speaks about the great reality of Love and mentions those He loves.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ الْمُتَوَكِّلِينَ - وَأَحْسِنُوا إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ الْمُحْسِنِينَ - إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ التَّوَّابِينَ وَيُحِبُّ الْمُتَطَهِّرِينَ
إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ الْمُقْسِطِينَ - فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ الْمُتَّقِينَ - وَمَا ضَعُفُوا وَمَا اسْتَكَانُوا وَاللَّهُ يُحِبُّ الصَّابِرِينَ -

"Love Allah for what He nourishes you with of His Blessings, love me due to the love of Allah, and love the people of my house due to love of me."

(Tirmidhi) "Everyone will be with those whom he loves." (Bukhari)

"If Allah loves a person, He calls Gabriel, saying, I love so and so, O Gabriel love him So Gabriel would love him and then would make an announcement in the Heavens: Allah has loved so and-so therefore you should love him also. So all the dwellers of the Heavens would love him, and then he is granted the pleasure of the people on the earth." (Bukhari)

If these are the qualities that Allah loves, what about those that He hates?

إِنَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الْكَافِرِينَ - إِنَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الظَّالِمِينَ - وَلَا تَفْرَحُوا بِمَا آتَاكُمْ وَاللَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ كُلَّ مُخْتَالٍ فَخُورٍ
إِلَّا يُحِبُّ الْخَائِنِينَ - إِنَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُسْتَكْبِرِينَ - إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُحِبُّ كُلَّ خَوَّانٍ كَفُورٍ - إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُفْسِدِينَ
وَاللَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الْفَسَادَ - وَكُلُوا وَاشْرَبُوا وَلَا تُسْرِفُوا إِنَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُسْرِفِينَ - إِنَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُعْتَدِينَ

We all make claims that we love Allah but can we qualify our claim?

الَّذِينَ يَسْتَحِبُّونَ الْحَيَاةَ الدُّنْيَا عَلَى الْآخِرَةِ - وَقَالَتِ الْيَهُودُ وَالنَّصَارَى نَحْنُ أَبْنَاءُ اللَّهِ وَأَحِبَّاؤُهُ
قُلْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تُحِبُّونَ اللَّهَ فَاتَّبِعُونِي يُحْبِبْكُمُ اللَّهُ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ
قُلْ أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَالرَّسُولَ فَإِنْ تَوَلَّوْا فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُحِبُّ الْكَافِرِينَ

We all want to be loved, the centre of attention, to be preferred, cherished, honoured, respected. We always want genuine undying love and we always check its authenticity and consistency. Otherwise we fall out of love. What about Love for Allah/Deen/Prophet? How genuine, consistent and pure is our love for our Creator?

REFLECT ON BASMALA, ASMA UL-HUSNA

LOVE IS THE ROOT OF CREATION - الرَّحْمَنُ عَلَّمَ الْقُرْآنَ خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ عَلَّمَهُ الْبَيَانَ

How do you express your Love, what is your Love Language to Allah, The Prophet, Parents, Siblings, Spouse, Family, Community, Humanity...

Next Jumu'ah unravel from an Islamic Perspective:

The Five Love Languages written by Dr. Gary Chapman

- 1. Words of Affirmation, 2. Acts of Service 3. Receiving Gifts**
- 4. Quality Time, 5. Intimacy – Physical Touch**