

Michael Stamulus - My Father Loveth You

This transcript was generated automatically. Its accuracy may vary.

My presence.

Now it is going to be our privilege to listen to our brother Stamilis, and as his subject he will use. My father loveth you, brother Stamilis.

Before I start to speak on the topic, my brethren, I like to unload myself and present to you the greetings and love of the Greek class in New York first, and then the brethren on the way from the dawn house here.

And especially from the brother Dionysius Capatos from Athens, who wrote me some days ago. I received his letter to tell you of his greetings and Christian love to you all in this convention. He is the representative of the dawn there in Athens. In Athens, brethren, not only there in that city, but in every city of Greece is prohibited the truth to be proclaimed neither by radio or chats or books or meetings. With exception, some meetings are permitted to be held in the houses which should be meetings of study in the Bible.

And those meetings are not to be more than 10 people in each meeting.

So the brethren there really are going through severe trial.

A brother was speaking the truth to another man in the street, and the policeman arrested the brother.

He carried him to the police station, telling the chief police that he was propagandizing these men, telling him about the Bible students, and they take us as the Jehovah's Witnesses, and the brother was condemned to five months in prison and some money to pay also, which was the money more than five months that he stayed in prison. That is so much the money worth there in Greece they have no money present. The poor people are very poor and are getting much more poorer and poorer because it is a kingdom and not a republic.

A few are making money. The people make no money at all. So the brethren have to struggle alone, not only brethren to keep the faith once delivered unto the saints, but also their daily necessities. They have a hard time to. To make ends meet.

And of course, the Greek brethren do the best they can to send something to them, and I think these Jehovah Witnesses, the brethren that are left in the society and remain in the society, they also send not to our brothers, but to the others that are there with them as Jehovah's Witnesses in Greece. They don't accept all that Jehovah's Witnesses teach. No, no. Although they might be with them associated.

For they believe the truth as they are taught and for the truth they are standing some, of course, blindly. They worship, so to speak, the society. But this is not my topic, brethren. Jesus said in the world, ye shall have tribulation, but be of good Courage. I have overcome the world.

Yes, Jesus has overcome the world. Even for our brethren in Europe too. Sure.

As well as for us here. My topic, as it is announced, is going to be based on the words of Jesus which came forcibly to my mind these days. I was long time, many days ago trying to find some

Michael Stamulus - My Father Loveth You

topic which will be due for today here in the Convention, and somehow or other this or that prevented me to select another topic, and these words when I come across and read them, I tell you, brethren, they came forcibly in my mind.

And I said to myself, I am going to speak on these words. Jesus? Yes, Jesus said these words. The Father himself, that is emphasis on himself. The Father himself loveth you.

Now, what this means, brethren, to us? What these words? Only a few words. But they are precious. You can't buy them.

No. You can give no price to buy them. Not at all. You can find them in no other place. No matter what you do, small or great things change.

Impossible. In order to find them, you have to go to the words of our Redeemer.

He said something previous to that.

These words are found in the 16th chapter of John, the 27th verse, John's gospel. He says, if you love me. Well, if we love him, what is it? If we love him, what is going to happen? Oh, he says, the Father himself will love you.

Yes, and what of it? What is going to happen after? Well, Jesus, then I love you. Why doesn't he say, brethren, if you love me, I love you too. No, no, no.

Why? There is a reason, and the reason, my dear brethren, is in our heart. Jesus is not our judge. Oh, no, no.

Although he knows our hearts, but he doesn't judge us. He is our advocate, and as an advocate, he is for us all the time in favor for our case to make it good before God. If we love Jesus, then. Well, Jesus says to the Father, father, forgive them, forget whatever they did.

That's exactly what happens, my dear brethren, and the Father, his daily pleasure and daily delight we read is in his Son, Jesus, our Redeemer, and whatsoever he asks of the Father, the Father gives it to him. Even the forgiveness of our sins. Think of that, brethren, to have such a counselor, such a comforter, such a friend, before whom ask the question to yourselves.

Brethren, let us ask these questions quite often in our life, and let's see if our heart will not be delighted daily in thinking on these things. God is interested in us. Who are we?

Some worms of the earth. We are not worthy at all before God for favors and recognition as just people and much More than that, as children of God. Children of God? Yes. Natural children of God.

Yes. Partakers of the divine nature. Yes. O brethren, what a wonderful position this we have in the present time to be recognized as new creatures in Christ Jesus. Because we know God's plan, God's purposes.

What for God has a purpose behind telling us or revealing to us the truth, and it is not, my dear brain, something to play with the truth, as some do play with the truth. No, no, no. The truth is so valuable, so precious, so great a thing that we should be very, very careful, tap, so to speak. Carefulness to use in order to be in harmony with the truth.

Michael Stamulus - My Father Loveth You

To obey step by step as the truth teaches us and appreciate it, and how much more appreciate him that gave us the truth, God himself, through Jesus, our Redeemer.

Well, let us say a few things, my dear brethren, to remind ourselves once more that we may be positive that really what God, what Jesus tells us here it is true. God new self loving you.

We have a picture, you know, natural picture of a father, let's say, and the father has a few children, and some of them are small in years, and his love and heart is just on them. He likes them.

He loves them. In fact, he embraces them in his hands and on his breast and kisses them, and Jesus, my dear brethren, uses the Greek word phili.

God your father phili you. Phili. It means he kisses you.

Philo. It means I kiss. That is an expression of hearty love for the object which I kiss. That's exactly what it is. God expresses his great love to his children, to us in Christ Jesus, so much as to express his love by kissing us, embracing us in his arms and kissing us as a loving father kisses his little children.

If he is a loving father, if he is not a loving father and he doesn't care for his children, he is not worthy to have children. Now, my dear brethren, a father ought to love his children. His children, and it's his duty and a holy duty before God to teach them God's way, to teach them the way in which they should follow and live for the glory first of God and then for their own benefit and for the joy of the Father and of the mother. Oh, sure.

And so our heavenly Father is dealing with us from this standpoint. Natural children, divine children of God. Now we are babies in Christ Jesus. We are not born yet. No, no, no.

When we will be born, will be men in Christ Jesus. Perfect members of the body of Christ with perfect, divine.

There's so much. No wonder he says in the third chapter of his first epistle, brethren, he says, beloved, think what kind of a love God love you. What kind of a love? With what kind of a love? So great love that you may be called.

That he is calling you his children. Yes, and yet we don't know what we shall be. He says, no, not yet. We don't know why.

O my dear brethren, the greatest surprise is waiting to you and to me when we will be made like Jesus in the first resurrection. Surprise. Yes, great surprise. We never dreamed of something like that. To be the divine nature.

And then the Father, literally. Then he will embrace us with his wonderful arms and with his wonderful love to kiss us. Oh, yes. Welcome to our house. Now this is your house.

You inherit now everything. Oh, brethren, what's coming for you and for me? If we love Jesus now, what it means to love Jesus? What is it? It's one word, love.

It is very easy to love. Oh, yes. But brethren, it is hard to filli. To feel love. That is the next act to practice love.

Michael Stamulus - My Father Loveth You

Do we love Jesus? Yes. Well, proclaim his name in the world. Let's see. How courageous are you, taking the name of Jesus and telling others that he is the Savior of the whole world.

He died for the whole world. He died as a ransom, dying for Adam. He died for all, and therefore he is going to raise the whole human race and give them an opportunity to repent and to obey and to believe what God has done for them. Sacrificing his own son for their salvation.

And then to receive restoration, restitution or perfection of human nature as Adam was in paradise, and then the gift of God, life everlasting through Christ Jesus our Lord in the world. But manifested not like you and I now are. O no, brethren, no, no, no. We will be manifested in the power of the kingdom, in the glory of God himself.

Mighty ones and mighty ones. It means really, brethren, divine participants, Divine nature participants and divine powers and glory and ability and might that they going to exercise and to rule the whole universe. Not only this earth. This earth is only one speck of part in the universe, but to rule the whole universe. You and I have the opportunity.

It says there, Paul says there in the eighth chapter, God has. He is not using the word God. No. He says the whole creation groaneth together in pain, waiting for the manifestation of the sons of God. Waiting and growing together in pain.

What for? What for, brethren? Well, Father, Adam sinned, and because he sinned, God wise, loving, I have a plan for the salvation of his children. God blessed them before and gave them an order or a commandment.

He said, multiply and fill the whole earth. Before he condemned them to death, before they sinned, give them the dominion over all the earth to multiply. But they brought no children before they sinned, and after they sinned, they brought the children. Well, anyhow, here it is stated that right away God placed a hope before them.

What was the hope, first President? By suggesting to them a good hope, God sacrificed lamb and took the skin and made two coats of skin and dressed Adam and Eve because he was ready to chase them out of the garden in the earth which was full of thorns and thistles and will turn their bodies to pieces. So God protected them that way. Don't you think that Adam and Eve began to think, oh, God seems to be good. Maybe he'll do something to bring us back again to paradise.

Don't you think, brethren? Adam began to think something of that kind, and Eve. I say, yes, my dear brethren, but even if they didn't think that, Paul says here God subjected them to. He's not using the word God.

No, no. But they've been subjected. The whole creation subjected in vanity upon a hope, upon a basis. A basis which was a hope, and this hope was in this suggestion.

God gave them two Sacrificing a typical lamb which when we read, brethren, the Lamb of God that was laid from the foundation of the world. Don't quote it wrong, don't say before the foundation of the world. No, no, no. Was predestinated before the foundation of the world. Jesus to die for the world.

Because God knew that Adam is going to sin and therefore predestinated Jesus to be the redeemer of mankind before Adam sinned. But when the time came and Adam sinned, Jesus sure had to come here and die. So in God's mind, Jesus was dying from then on. So God subjected him

Michael Stamulus - My Father Loveth You

in that hope. A sure hope that they really will return back again by God's grace.

If they will be willing to obey, then, and they will obey, otherwise the second death will be ready upon them, and those, my dear brethren, they have a hope which hope really will give them comfort in their present life. That's the reason we have so many religions and so many hopes, so many myths, so many other things. Why? Because they left the first truth.

They left it. They didn't care for it. The life, a selfish life, began to twist their reasoning minds. You see, their co. Reason perfectly right and just.

And they didn't kept the truth. Abel kept the truth. The result was he Suffered? He died all right. The first martyr.

Martyr? For what? For what he was martyred. What did he witness, my dear brethren? Oh, God will do something.

Sure. What? He offered some sacrifice, leaving. He put a lively thing there. A goat or a lamb, anything.

He slew it, and he gave an offering to God which was a type of Jesus dying on the cross, and therefore, brethren, let us now go a little bit further on this. What was the love of Jesus that said, if you love me now? I leave this here purposely, brethren, to bring a little later comments, other comments in connection with this life.

You already had a hope. Yes. They didn't want to keep it. They didn't kept it. They thought they will make business out of other thoughts and so on.

And they have filled the whole world with lies and so on. As we read the man of God, when he saw the truth, he says, what is man? Man is a dead person. He's condemned to death. He lives a few years and he returns back to the earth.

He's gone. But not with the other religions. Oh, they say, no, man, surely you will not die. They just say and hold fast certain teachings. So when Jesus said, if you love me, he meant, brethren, if you keep my commandments.

Now let's read a little bit now. He says this way. Who is he that loveth me? He makes a question. He that loveth me says, will keep my commandments.

And he that keeps my commandments, he is the one that loveth me, and he that loveth me, my Father will love him. What for? Just because he loved Jesus. Just loving Jesus?

No, no, just. He expressed his love by keeping the commandments of Jesus. Sure, and one and the only one, and the last commandment that he left among his disciples.

Brethren, it was love one another. Think of that.

When we love one another, we. We will try, my dear brethren, not to scandalize anybody. Not to offend anybody. Scandalize. It's a Greek word that is not used.

I used it.

Michael Stamulus - My Father Loveth You

When we offend a brother, we do something and then we offend the brother. We know it many times, brethren. We know it and yet we do it. We ought not to do it if we love Jesus. If we don't love Jesus, you think the Father is going to love us?

Oh, brother? No, no, no. God loves them that love Jesus. Yes, and those that love Jesus, God sees the heart that they keep the commandments of Jesus, and if so, God loves them perfectly.

Look what happened in the disciples. Among the disciples of Jesus, Peter was one that he was very fervent brother, very faithful brother. He was loving brother. Jesus loved him greatly, and he gave him really the first place among his disciples.

He was right. Why Jesus watching the Father always to see upon which of his disciples is the Father's favor Him Jesus will love more.

And Jesus says to Peter, Peter, Satan wanted to see you as a wheat, and I pray to the Father for you that your faith may not fail, and then he says, and when you turn back, when you see your mistake that you make, you deny me three times. You'll see mistake. You'll cry, I know it.

I know everything. But he says, strengthen your brethren when you turn back, and what Peter did I tell you, brethren? He laid down his life for the brethren. Read his epistles and see if he calls them names there or some rebuke or something like that.

Nothing of the kind, my dear brethren. His two epistles are epistles also. Full of love and spirit, of sacrifice and doing everything possible for the brethren that to. To make them strong and stand fast in the faith that the Lord has given them to have.

Now, what is a Christian? Were all the disciples of Jesus? Not so many. There were 12. Then one was Satan, anyhow, 11 very faithful.

And then Paul, the 12 very faithful, all of them, and the rest of the believers and so on until now. How are we become Christians? Are we sure we got the steps one by one and fulfill them? And we know that really we are disciples of Jesus.

In order that these words we may apply them to us. God, my Father, loveth you. God. Not any man or a king of this present very world. No, brethren, no, no.

God himself, the owner of the universe, the creator of all things. He loveth me, and I'll ask the conditions. What are the conditions? So I may fulfill the conditions.

And then I'll be sure that the Father loveth me. Yes, and I'll be ready then even to die for my Lord. Isn't that nice, my dear brethren? I know.

Then the Father wants me to die for Jesus, and I'll go and die. That's all. Isn't it nice? Yes.

And that's the power that the disciples had, my dear brethren, in the day of Pentecost, and hence, since that time, the real disciples. How can a man become a real disciple of Christ? First, brethren, it is necessary to recognize that we were born sinners. Not one of us was perfect man just.

No. Although the Bible says every man, each man says, I am all right, I am a good man. I am a good man, and there presents a question. Which question?

Michael Stamulus - My Father Loveth You

I want you to hear it, brethren. It is Two questions in the Bible. Very important, very important and pertains to us. One for the brethren, for the sisters too, and one for the sisters, individually and also collectively for the bride of Christ.

What wonderful. It says, every man declares his own righteousness. That is, he is right. Sure. He is no imperfect at all.

He is all right. Every man, and then he says, but who can find a man One. A man faithful. Who can find one faithful one.

Don't get discouraged, brethren, because you don't find one faithful nowadays. Why? Because the predestinated number. Maybe. Maybe we have come to the end of the time that the predestinated number of the body of Christ is almost filled in.

And the Lord is trying now us that are alive to be faithful even unto death. Helping us, my dear brethren, is not pushing us to lose the price. Not at all, my dear brethren, if we are having strange motive in our hearts, everything will work together for good. That we may make our call. Election sure.

And God. The motive looks, my dear brethren, and works. Is it not written that all things work together for our good? Yes. To them that love God, yes.

But it is an unsaved love God. Do we really love God? We will show it by our works. Yes, and the works that are precious in the sight of God, my dear brethren, proclaim in his kingdom.

And the King proclaiming Jesus and the kingdom of God. The truth, my dear brethren. The plan of God, my dear brethren, which is stated so plainly in the Bible. Read the 11th verse of the third chapter of Ephesians. Please read it when you go home.

Not now. Remember it. The third chapter of the Ephesians, the 11th verse. That's all. Read it.

You will see there. According to the plan of the ages. Does God have a plan of the ages? Yes, in Christ Jesus, who carries it on and fulfills the plans of God. Well, anyhow, brethren, our time is running short.

I want to say some more in connection with love of God. So a Christian becomes this way. First, he recognizes the fact that he is born a sinner. Second, that he must accept Christ as the Redeemer. Christ died by the grace of God, for every man died for you.

He died for me. Christ died for me? Yes, it's a small thing. Some they take it well. Christ died for me.

It means nothing. That's why. Christ died for everybody, my brethren. He died for you. You ought to be saved.

You ought to flee to Christ and be saved and not die the second death. Each one of you as myself alone. Yes, I have to appreciate the sacrifice of Christ and Believe and appreciate it, and show my appreciation of my life, and yet to be accepted.

Then Jesus accepts me. Now Jesus, I want to show my love to you. I like to do something for you. What shall I do? Well, Jesus gave me something to do.

Michael Stamulus - My Father Loveth You

Oh, yes, brethren, now here he says, now, did you consecrate yourself to me? Will you consecrate yourself to do God's will? That's what I did. You have to follow my footsteps. See, I died for the salvation of the whole world as well as for you.

Now will you die also with me, dying for others, for the bread? Will you, Lord, this little heart? I'm going to help you. He says, fear not. Be of good courage in the world.

Ye shall have much tribulation. But I have overcome the world.

And so, my dear brethren, Jesus takes us and gives us to the Father. Father, this is another man that desires to fear thee, to love thee, to do thy will. He consecrated himself to do thy will, and the Father gives him the robe of Christ's righteousness. Covering him up altogether makes him perfect altogether.

No wonder we read in the 10th chapter of Hebrews and the 14th verse, it says, he that is sanctified are of woman, and they that are sanctified are of one that is one Father. God is the Father of Jesus, and the disciples of Jesus are also the children of God. God is the Father, he the sanctifier.

Jesus made them perfect with one sacrifice. He says, give them one sacrifice and made them perfect. Both. How they make them perfect? How long?

Forever, he says, until they die. Until they finish the present life. Yes, my dear brethren, forever sanctified them, perfected them. They presented to the Father as a perfect. Jesus presented them as a perfect sacrifice to the Father.

And the Father accepted, and there is you and mine born again, birthed as new creatures. God shed his spirit richly in our hearts by which we call God. How? Abba.

Father. This word Abba the first time, my dear brethren, is used in this text. Poet Paul uses it, which means just like a young baby born Baba. Baba. Something like that.

You see? Exactly. Abba Father. Abba the Father. We are able now to call him Abba the Father because we are born of him.

We are having his Spirit in our heart. Which spirit leads us to call him Abba Father, you think he doesn't love us now? God, he loves us. Why? He is working in us.

Paul says, in us? Yes. God is working in us? Yes, God is working in us. What is he doing?

Brethren, he is perfecting you and perfecting me. As little babies in the womb of the Abrahamic covenant. That's all. As new creatures he is, so to speak, feeding us to grow more and more in grace and in honor after the image of his Son. To live a life like Jesus lived here.

And God is working in our hearts for his pleasure. As it is translated in the English, for His pleasure. Well, it is his pleasure. No doubt, brethren, the Father has a pleasure to see his child grow up. Because the Father is washing him, is clothing him, is feeding him, and so on fine all night, but for the benefit of the boy too.

And therefore, in the Greek is hypere. The word hyper means imperfo, the good will, and the good will is here, my dear brethren, in your heart. In my heart. That God has shed his spirit richly.

Michael Stamulus - My Father Loveth You

And therefore the new creation is here growing more and more in our minds as a new creature, and God is working. God is working. God is working in us in behalf of this new creature, and when we die, we will die exactly the time when we have to be born in the Spirit perfect.

God is going to give us perfect bodies, and we will be then as men in Christ Jesus. Beyond the veil before God we will see God. You know the last verses of the last chapter in Revelation.

They use the same expression here. That we will see the Father's face. Face to face, he says, and his servants. The word servants, brethren, does not mean slaves.

Although even if God will call us slaves, we'll be proud. Why slaves of God? We are proud to be slaves. We have such a God that we are not seen to be slaves of him. No, no.

We are glad, happy. But he calls us Zulus. Zulus. It means one that is bought. One that is bought with pride.

And Jesus bought us. The Father bought us with great price. He sacrificed his only begotten Son to buy us and to bring us to heaven and make us divine, natural children. Wonderful, and his servants shall behold his face forever and ever.

You, brethren, have the opportunity to look at the face of the Creator of the universe, and to look at his face. It means fullness of joy and blessings forevermore. As it is written, is it not? Yes.

We don't know what influences go out from God. Sweet influences, wonderful influences. We don't know how we will feel when we approach God, and the time comes, my dear brethren, very near we see the signs now. Some, they doubt this.

And they doubt that now that we really are right at the door of the kingdom been established, all of us to be changed or to enter the most holy brethren. Let us be faithful. Let us love God. Let us see to it. Let us meditate.

The Father himself loveth you and makes everything to work together for your own eternal benefit. You can do that. Oh, no. No. No matter how rich you are or mighty you are, or wise you are, you can do.

You can't make all things to work together for your good. No. No, you can't. But God can do it, and thank God that he can do it.

Because he's all wise, all powerful, all kind and loving and mighty God that we are. How to obey and to serve him. Let us serve him, brethren, with love. Shall we love Him? Yes.

Shall we love him with all our hearts? Yes. Well, let's see what the prophet says in the 57.

The 57th Psalm reads this. I will cry unto the Lord, Jehovah, God most high. Unto God that performeth, mind you, that performeth all things for me, everything for me. The Lord will perfect that which concerneth me, brethren. He will perfect you, the Lord as new creature you only be faithful.

Follow Jesus in his footsteps and the Lord will do his part. He will perfect you, and then he says, the Lord will perfect that which concern turneth me. Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever. Forsake not the works of thy loving hands.

Michael Stamulus - My Father Loveth You

May the Lord bless you, dear brethren. He will not forget the works of his hands. The works of his loving hands. Now is you and I thank you, Brother Samuels. We have a few announcements to be made at this time.

And sing the last verse of number 324. Three, two, four. The last verse, and then Brother Stamillis will close with prayer, asking a blessing on the meal that follows.

Sa, our dear Heavenly Father, reverently and humbly we bow our heads and hearts before thee in the precious name of Jesus, our Redeemer, to thank thee, dear Father, for the many blessings that thou has showered daily in this blessed convention. We thank thee for the blessings of thy word, and especially, dear Father, for this manifestation of thy great love for us. It is written that the Father himself loveth you. We wonder, dear Father, how this can be what we know cannot be any other way but the truth. It is the truth, and we desire to express our appreciation by living, dear Father, in harmony with thy will in Christ Jesus.

We pray thee to give us a larger measure of thy Holy Spirit. Spirit to lead our thoughts, our words and all the members of our bodies that we may live justly and soberly and godly in the present life in order to hear the blessed words of Jesus at the end of the way.

Blessed are you, my faithful servant. Thou has been faithful in a few things. I will make thee ruler over many things. We are worthless, dear Father, but we thank thee because thou art making us worthy. We praise Thee and glorify thy name.

In the name of Jesus, our great Redeemer, amen.