

Love Letters from God

By Leslie Ritchie

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For Beau

You're in my every thought and prayer.
I love you always!

For Glenna

You, dear sister, are an inspiration and a blessing to all who know you!

I love you forever!

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Discovery of Faith, Recovery through Faith

Living in Faith, through Faith

FAQ's of Faith

Flourishing in the Freedom of Faith

Help from the Psalms

The Something Life Is All About

Just a friendly reminder—

You don't have forever to prepare to meet Me; You have a short time to prepare for forever with Me.

Love, God

Table of Contents

Let Me Introduce Myself
My Love for You
Velcome to My Family
Youth
Trust Me
The Problem with Anger
Don't Despair
Lost Your Way
Turned Away from Me
Thought Control55
Thoughts to Remember
Acknowledgments

What comes into our minds when we think of God is the most important thing about us.

(A.W. Tozer)

Let Me Introduce Myself

Dear One,

od is the name for the Deity of My Son (the Word), My Holy Spirit, and Me. We are individual beings but share a common nature. We are One. We are spiritual beings without beginning or end ... we are, and were, and will always be.

I am the Father, Ultimate Authority; My Son is Jesus the Christ (I'll tell you about Him in a minute); the Holy Spirit is My Spirit that I give to those who believe in Me ... He acts on My behalf.

Because We share a common nature and are One with each other, We'll use the singular pronoun "I" in this letter to you.

I created time for mankind, along with everything else you've ever seen or heard of ... and even more that is unseen to the human eye, never heard, and has never even entered into the mind of any human (1 Corinthians 2:9). In other words, you'd never imagine or be able to fathom all I have done and am able to do.

Before I set time in motion, I made plans for you ... to be able to find Me. Before I created the light and darkness, the sky, waters, and land, every form of vegetation, all animals, and beasts of the sea, I thought of you. When everything was completed and ready for them, I created man and woman (Adam and Eve) (Genesis 1:1—2:25). I created them in My image ... spiritual beings ... and gave them physical bodies for life in the world I created for you.

My heart's desire has always been to have an everlasting relationship with My creation; however, they chose to listen to Satan, the author of evil, instead of Me. Satan was a murderer from the beginning (John 8:44a) and wants to destroy as many of My children as possible.

Because Satan deceived Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, I cursed him and promised that one day one of their offspring (Jesus) would fatally bruise his head (Genesis 3:14–15). From that point forward, generation after generation turned from Me and did evil. I saw that the wickedness of man

was great in the earth and that every imagination and intention of all human thinking was only evil. And I regretted that I had made man on the earth ... I was heartbroken (Genesis 6:5-6).

There was only one man, Noah, and his family who was righteous and walked in fellowship with Me. Through Noah's generational line, I sent My Word to earth ... My Son ... to carry out the plan I made before time began. To accomplish My plan of making a way for you to know and be with Me, I used people who loved Me and were dedicated to helping Me. None of those people were perfect but they were faithful and devoted to Me, and all of them died having been guided and sustained by faith (Hebrews 11:13).

As you can see by the planning and care I put into making it possible for us to be together, I have loved you with an everlasting love, I have drawn you with unfailing kindness (Jeremiah 31:3) and I have longed to be gracious to you (Isaiah 30:18).

Abraham was from the lineage of Noah. He also had faith to obey when I called on him. Because of his faithful obedience I promised him three things: 1) I would make of him a great nation (Israel), 2) I would lead him to and give him and his descendants a coveted land (Canaan) and homes they didn't have to build, and 3) that, in him, all families and people of the earth would be blessed (which would happen when I sent My Son to earth) (Genesis 12:2–3).

Many prophets, judges—men and women—were raised up throughout the years in order to help prepare mankind for the culmination of My planning. Moses, Joshua, Esther, David, ... all people who knew and trusted Me, believed in My promises, and waited on My timing.

Throughout the ages I made promises to My people (both to groups and specific individuals), all of which I have kept and made happen ... save the day My Son Jesus returns to the earth to claim His own (John 14:1–3).

Along the way there have been people who have chosen to follow Satan as he tried, at every turn, to thwart My ultimate plan to save those who believe in and love Me; I have used the actions of those people as well (much to Satan's dismay). Because no matter what happens and how hard Satan tries, I am all powerful and can (and do) work all things for the good of those who love Me (Romans 8:28).

When the set time had fully come, I sent My Son, born of a woman (which also made Him the Son of Man). He is the exact living image of Me ... the visible representation of the invisible, the firstborn of all creation (Colossians 1:15). He was called Immanuel—which means "God with us". This was My plan before time began, so that He might redeem and liberate those who were under the Law, that whoever believes might be adopted as My children. And because you are My child, I sent the Spirit of My Son into your heart; so, you're no longer a slave, but My child; and since you are My child, I have made you also an heir (Galatians 4:4–7).

Satan thought by killing Jesus, that he would finally win the war of good and evil. Instead, he was instrumental in accomplishing My ultimate plan ... salvation for man.

When My Son Jesus was crucified on the cross of Calvary, He bore the guilt of every person who lives (past and future), from the beginning of time; He Himself bore your sins in His body on the tree, that you might die to sin and live to righteousness (1 Peter 2:24). In other words, He accepted the punishment for the sins that would have been rendered to all who sin. The Son of Man was three days and three nights in the grave (Matthew 12:40); however, even though He was crucified in weakness [yielding Himself], He was resurrected from death by My power to live again (2 Corinthians 13:4 AMP) ... Christ has, in fact, been raised from the dead (1 Corinthians 15:20).

Since Jesus was physically dead, My followers thought the battle had been lost. But Satan did *not* win ... Jesus rose again and is now at My right hand ... with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to Him (1 Peter 3:22) and He intercedes on your behalf (Romans 8:34c).

Jesus will return one day ... nobody but I (the Father) know when; not even Jesus knows the time (Matthew 24:36). And at that time, He will bring My children to live in heaven with Me for all eternity.

Remember what I said at the beginning, that I am a spiritual being and created humans in My image. Every person is a spiritual being living life in your world in a physical body. When your life on earth is ended, whether your body dies naturally, is struck down by some sort of tragedy, or Jesus returns to bring you home, your spiritual soul will continue living on forever.

On that day, I will judge no one, but have entrusted all judgment to My Son (John 5:22), your Savior. Not everybody who calls Him "Lord" will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only those who do My will (Matthew 7:21). Jesus is coming soon. His reward is with Him, and He will give to each person according to what they have done (Revelation 22:12).

I know the heart of every single person and I know whether a heart is sincere or not. So, it is important that you hear Me when I say ... without faith, it is impossible to please Me. Whoever comes to Me must believe that I exist and that I am the Rewarder of those who earnestly and diligently seek Me (Hebrews 11:6). Just going through the motions to be seen by others and/or to please family and friends is of absolutely no value.

Faith is the assurance of the things you hope for; it's the proof of things you don't see and the conviction in your heart of their reality (Hebrews 11:1). However, having a relationship with Me is more than just having faith that I exist. You must believe in Me and be baptized to be saved from judgment and follow Me ... walk and live with Me (Mark 16:16).

My Son, Jesus, is the only Way to Me ... He is the Truth and the Life; no one comes to Me but through Him (John 14:6), and there is salvation in and through no one else, because there is no other name under heaven given among men by and in which you must be saved (Acts 4:12).

If you will come to Me and be My child, I will be your Lord and rescue you from all the many hardships that confront you (Psalm 34:19). When you know and acknowledge Me, I will make your paths straight and smooth ... easy to follow (Proverbs 3:6a); I will fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that, you may abound in hope ... because I am the God of hope (Romans 15:13). I will be with you always and watch over you wherever you go (Genesis 28:15); I will comfort you as your Father of mercies (2 Corinthians 1:3–4); and with Me you will do valiantly, for it is I who will trample down your enemies (Psalm 108:13); I will be your Refuge, your Fortress, and your God in Whom you trust (Psalm 91:2); if you ask for anything according to My will, I will listen to your requests and you will have what you ask of Me (1 John 5:14–15); you will never have to be afraid, because I have redeemed you (Isaiah 43:1). These are My promises to you as My child.

My children are special and set apart from the world. Like obedient children, don't be conformed to the desires of your former way of living; instead, be holy in your behavior, as I am holy (1 Peter 1:14–16). You can't be a "little" worldly and holy at the same time. Everyone who is born into Christ is victorious and overcomes the world (1 John 5:4).

Keep in mind that you have no idea about what may happen in your life tomorrow. Your physical life is like a vapor that is visible for a little while and then vanishes (James 4:14). Look carefully then how you walk and live in this life. Live purposefully and worthily, not as the foolish do, but as wise people, making the very most of the time you have (Ephesians 5:15–16).

This is My will and desire ... that everyone who believes in Jesus will have eternal life (John 6:40a). Don't be concerned about and focused on having food that perishes, but for food (the Bread of Life) that feeds your spiritual needs and leads to eternal life (John 6:27). Jesus gives you eternal life and once you are born anew through Him, you will never, ever perish and no one will ever snatch you out of My hand (John 10:28).

In the world you will have tribulation and trials, distress, and frustration, but take courage and be of good cheer; and remember that Jesus has overcome the world (John 16:33). You are not wrestling with flesh and blood but against the spirit forces of wickedness in the unseen realm, so I have armed you with all you need to fight the battle successfully (Ephesians 6:12). And if you will stand firm and patiently endure, you will win the true life of your soul (Luke 21:19). Jesus is the Light of the world and will keep you from darkness (John 8:12). you. Strength an. Shield (Psalm 28:7). the Good Shepherd Who laid down His life for you (John 10:11), your Redeemer (Isaiah 43:1), the Bread of Life (John 6:35), the Way and the Truth (John 14:6), and Love (1 John 4:8b).

I tell you these things because I want you to know Who I am and what I have done, the promises I have made to you, and what you can and should expect from Me. But even more, I want you to know Me; that I want a relationship with you ... now and for eternity.

I am the giver of My love and the receiver of your love. And because I created you in My image, you were made to love and be loved also.

In My Word (the Bible) I have shown what is good; and what do I, the Lord, require of you, you ask. For you to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with Me (Micah 6:8).

I promise to refresh the weary and satisfy the faint (Jeremiah 31:25). Those who hope in Me will renew their strength and soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, and they will walk and not be faint (Isaiah 40:31). Come to Me with your weariness and heavy burdens, and I will give you rest (Matthew 11:28).

Love for eternity, Your Creator and God