



# THE VISION IS LOVE

## **The God That Is Love**

01.14.2024

John 1:18

Dave Lomas

### **John 1:18**

No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

“Every human love, at its height, has a tendency to claim for itself a divine authority. Its voice tends to sound as if it were the will of God Himself. Love for a woman may cause a man to break his vows and neglect his wife and children, love of country may cause a person to commit unthinkable atrocities and love of the church may motivate people actually to do evil. If ever the book which I am not going to write is written, it must be the full confession by Christendom of Christendom's specific contribution to the sum of human cruelty and treachery. We have shouted the name of Christ and enacted the service of Moloch.”

- C.S. Lewis

God is Love

The Christian God comes to us as love, in love, for love.

### **John 1:18**

No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

### **John 1:18**

No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, *who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father*, has made him known.

“If you see love, you see the Trinity.”

- St. Augustine

### **1 Corinthians 13:4-7**

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

### **John 1:18**

No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

“The proof of perfected [love] is a willing sharing of the love that has been shown you, the perfect love that God is must be not simply interpersonal but overflowing...Shared love is properly said to exist when a third person is loved by two persons harmoniously and in community, and the affection of the two persons is fused into one affection by the flames of love for the third.”

- Frederick Bauerschmidt, *The Love That Is God*

“The God who is love is not a ‘thing’ but an activity. The Father is the loving of the Son, and the Son is the returning of love to the Father, and from this mutuality of love the loving that is the Holy Spirit is breathed out, the contented sigh of the



eternal lovers. God is, we might say, the eternal and unconstrained play of interpersonal love, and it is from the heart of this eternal play of love that we creatures are brought forth into time and history.”

- Frederick Bauerschmidt

At the center of ultimate reality is love.

“And now, what does it all matter? It matters more than anything else in the world. The whole dance, or drama, or pattern of this three-Personal life is to be played out in each one of us: or (putting it the other way around) each one of us has got to enter that pattern, take his place in that dance. There is no other way to the happiness for which we were made.”

- C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

Eros: An Ascending Love

Agape: A Descending Love

