

**UNREQUITED LOVE**  
**By Donald G. Leavell**

**For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved (John 3:16-17).**

How God must have felt to love His creation for millennia after millennia without being loved in return. His love is still not reciprocated by billions of His creatures. How it must pain His heart! What is unrequited love? It is love unreciprocated which is extended through God's grace not because of value in the one loved but because of the value placed upon another by God Himself. In the scriptures, we call this love, agape. There are multitudes who are not aware that the God and Father of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, has loved them before the foundation of the world and still does love them in a manner they have never known. The God of unrequited love loves the sinner with the same love which He loves the repentant sinner, the saint-even Jesus Christ.

The Holy Scriptures tell us, **"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved" (John 3:16-17).** The love God gives to us is saving, redeeming, justifying, and sanctifying love. It is unequalled in all of creation. If only the sinner knew that God has made this love available to him and that it is presently hovering and brooding, waiting to bring him into the presence of God completely justified, that sinner would no longer reject this love and lover. It baffles the most vivid imagination as to why this love remains unrequited by so many to this very day. What makes a heart so callous and unresponsive? What makes a person unwilling to respond to this love? For us who have responded to Jesus, I say, though rejected and unreciprocated, the love of God keeps on giving, keeps on sheltering, hovering, brooding, watching, and waiting over sinners, unwilling to give up until that moment when time will be no more. At that moment, God's love for lost sinners will forever be unrequited!

Accepting His Love,  
Pastor Don