

“BELOVED, BROKEN AND BEAUTIFUL”

Finding Compassion and Forgiveness for Ourselves & Others

- Part 2: November 26th, 2023 -



Enjoy a Spiritual 'Protein Shake'

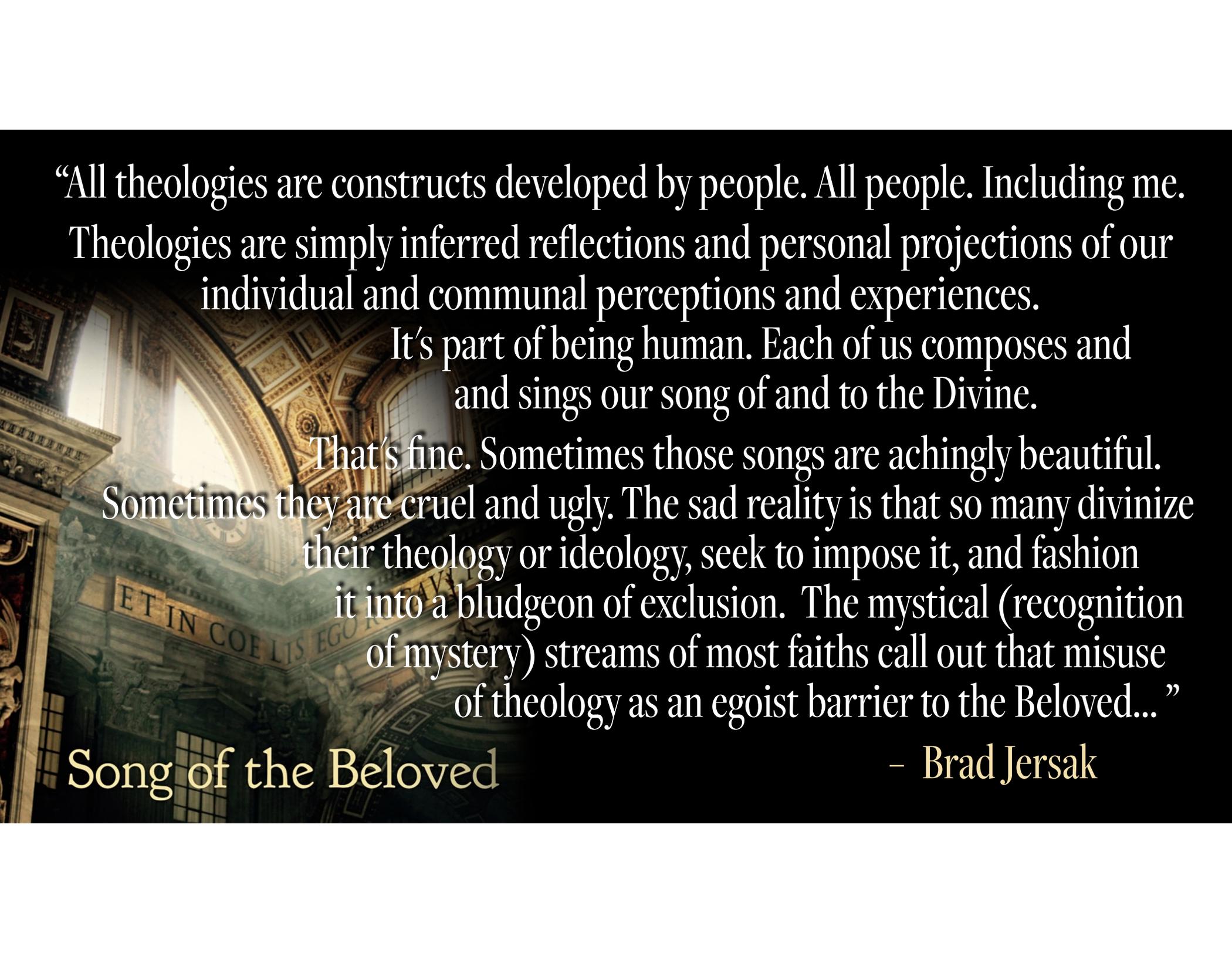
“If you are unable to love yourself unconditionally,
you will have a difficult time loving others as they are.
Every kindness you show yourself enlarges your capacity to love.
Self-compassion is like oxygen for one’s well-being:
breathing it in deeply will calm your own soul and release
life-giving love and care into the world around you.”

MICHAEL
LAFLEUR



INFUSION
NETWORK

– Michael Lafleur



“All theologies are constructs developed by people. All people. Including me. Theologies are simply inferred reflections and personal projections of our individual and communal perceptions and experiences.

It’s part of being human. Each of us composes and and sings our song of and to the Divine.

That’s fine. Sometimes those songs are achingly beautiful. Sometimes they are cruel and ugly. The sad reality is that so many divinize their theology or ideology, seek to impose it, and fashion it into a bludgeon of exclusion. The mystical (recognition of mystery) streams of most faiths call out that misuse of theology as an egoist barrier to the Beloved...”

Song of the Beloved

– Brad Jersak

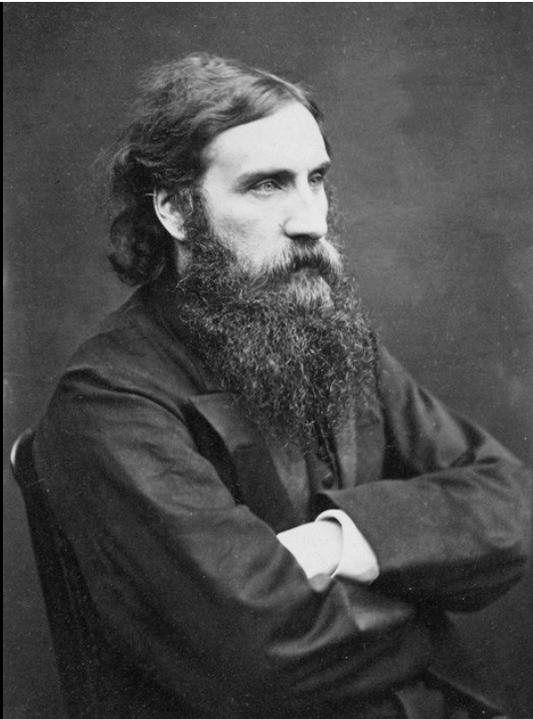
“Salvation is not found in my assent to any theological assertion, but in the infinite love of Whatever or Whomever the divine Beloved is and isn’t.

In my song of the beloved, Jesus showed us this way, this truth, this life. But it’s not my song that saves me, but the One to whom I sing imperfectly. And yes, this too is my construct. I do not “know” it in the way I know theological propositions. I know it in the way I trust that my mother loves me and would (and has) laid down her life for me.

You are God's beloved.

And I don’t know the limits of such love because they are, by nature, higher, wider, longer, and deeper than my rational and relational capacities. But in my song, I’ve come to believe **God is love.** – Brad Jersak

beloved



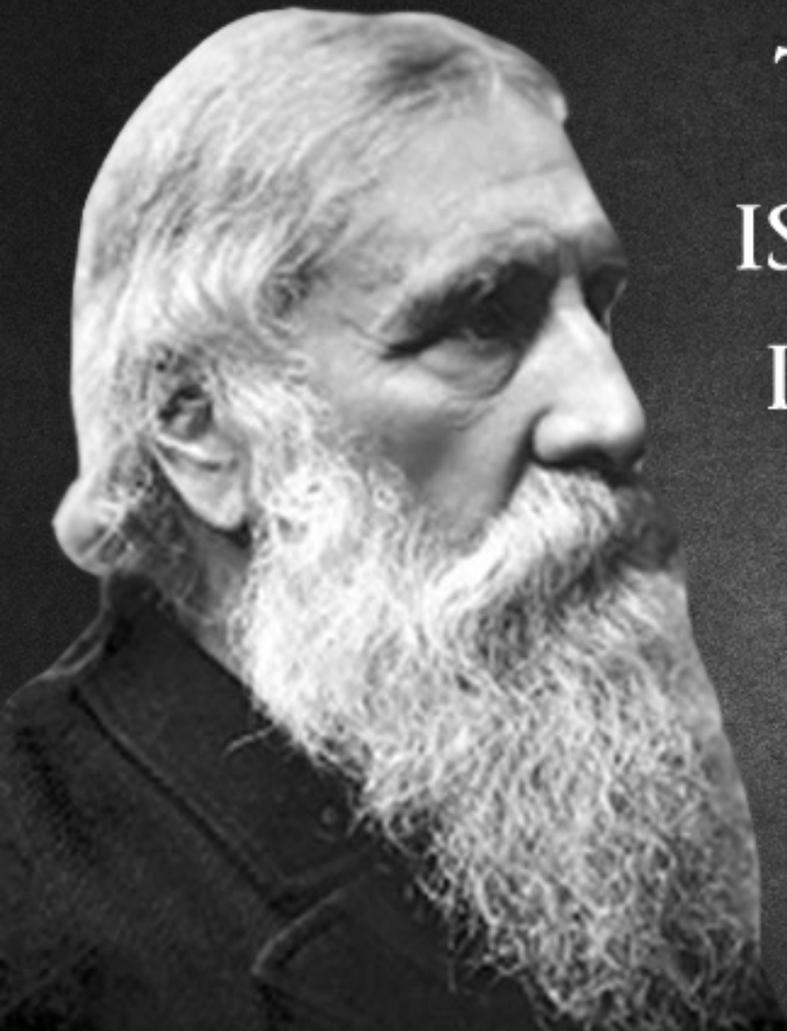
George MacDonald

For God is sheer beauty,
all-generous in love, loyal
always and ever.

Psalm 100:5 MSG

“In low theologies, hell is invariably the deepest truth,
and the love of God is not so deep as hell.”

- George MacDonald from his novel “Robert Falconer”



THE VERY FIRE OF HELL
IS THE FIRE OF LOVE. BUT
IT IS A LOVE THAT WILL
BURN THE EVIL
OUT OF YOU.

- GEORGE MACDONALD

What are the Essential Qualities of God's love?

How far will Trinity go to reach us in our blindness and deafness?



*“There's no shadow You won't light up,
Mountain You won't climb up coming after me;
There's no wall You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down coming after me”*

How long does God's Love last?

“Your love never fails, never gives up, never runs out on me...”

Is it conditional/contractual or covenantal in nature, and why?

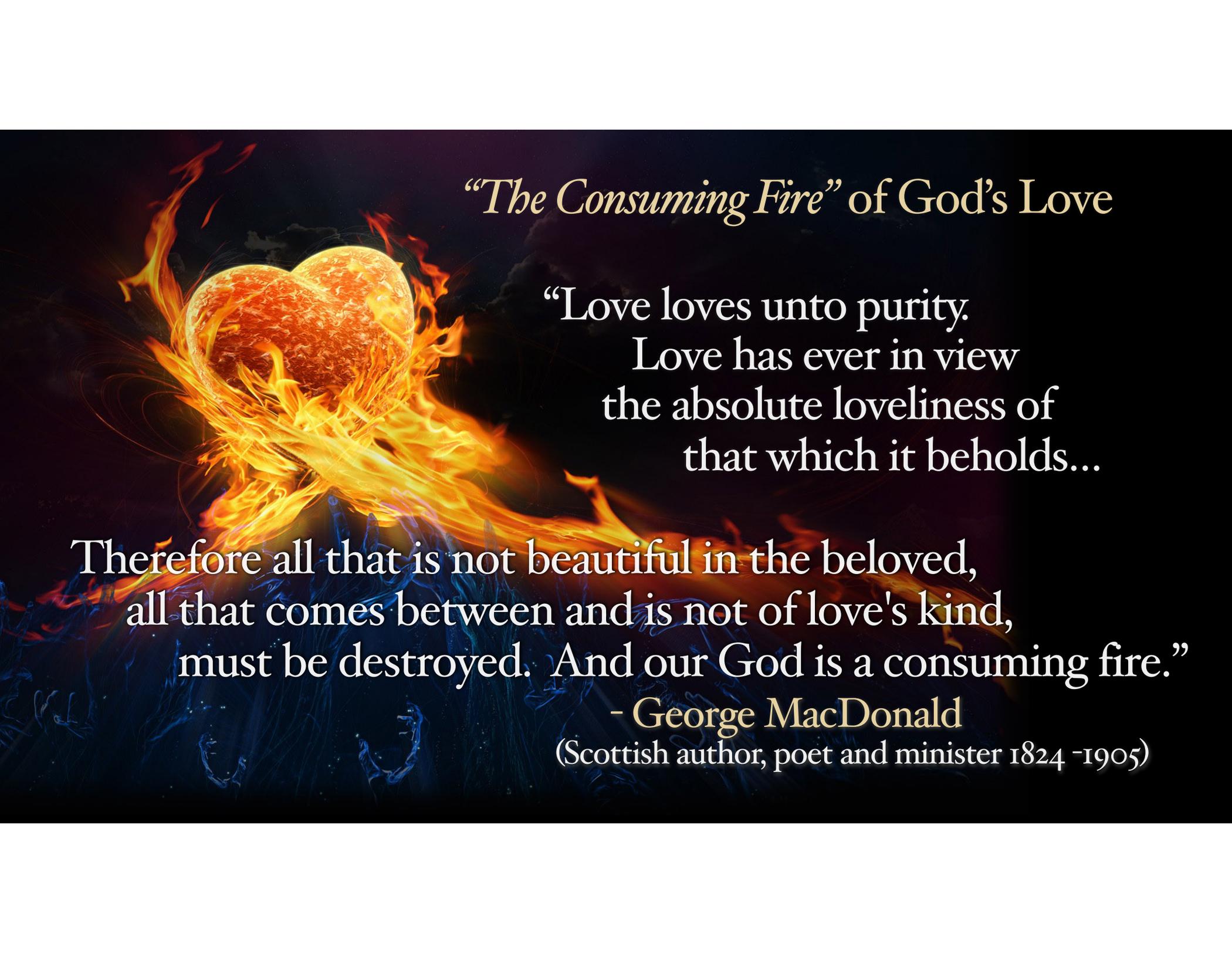
What ultimate goal and purpose does Divine Love have in view?

“Primarily, God is not bound to punish sin; he is bound to destroy sin. The only vengeance worth having on sin is to make the sinner himself its executioner.”

- George MacDonald



sukamoto photography



“The Consuming Fire” of God’s Love

“Love loves unto purity.
Love has ever in view
the absolute loveliness of
that which it beholds...”

Therefore all that is not beautiful in the beloved,
all that comes between and is not of love's kind,
must be destroyed. And our God is a consuming fire.”

- *George MacDonald*
(Scottish author, poet and minister 1824 -1905)

REALITY CHECK

Look at me as I look at you,
Two different perspectives –two points of view.....
With what you see and what I see
Begins the mystery of having to be!

Conceived and born and brought into being
Without our knowing, without our agreeing.....
To come and take our expected place...
Engaging with the human race!

What I've learned or been taught to think...

To come and take our expected place...
Engaging with the human race!

What I've learned or been taught to think...
.....Each primal, powerful, persuasive link.....
They are all just really an approximate guess
Of what a life is supposed to express!

So here I am in time and space.....
Filed in a global data base.....
Working out an action plan.....
Based on my estimated lifespan!!