

And Have Not Love (Video)

by Basilea Schlink

This sermon emphasizes the presence and power of God today, highlighting His almighty nature fueled by His great love. The story of Sadhu Sundar Singh in Tibet illustrates the transformative power of sacrificial love. It conveys the message that true love, as described in 1 Corinthians 13, is essential for our lives and eternal judgment. Jesus, the ultimate source of love, is willing to fill us with His love if we surrender our selfishness and failures to Him.

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:1, Romans 5:8, John 15:13, Ephesians 3:17, 1 John 4:19, Galatians 2:20, 1 John 4:7

Topics: "God's Love", "Transformative Power of Sacrifice"

Description

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Transcript

God lives and works today. He is almighty and all-powerful, and the source of His power is His great love. The same holds true for us.

Today's meditation by Vasilija Shlink shares the true story of how one man made this exciting and earnest discovery. Sadhu Sundar Singh, a great man of God from India, was once on a trip to the wasteland of Tibet. An icy north wind brushed across the heights, destroying every living thing.

When Sadhu and his Tibetan traveling companion turned the corner around a projected rock, they found a man lying on the ground, unconscious, half frozen to death. Sadhu, knelt down by the unfortunate man, examined him and suggested to his companion that they carry the man on to the next shelter. But the Tibetan refused.

He said that they would be lucky to reach the next village at all in this terrible weather. And so he went away. After great trouble, Sadhu succeeded in getting the poor man onto his back.

Slowly and pantingly he made progress. Soon he no longer felt the icy cold. On the contrary, because of the strain, streams of sweat ran down from his forehead.

Then a wonderful thing happened. Through the continual contact with this warm body, life returned into the body of the half-dead man on Sadhu's shoulders. Sadhu Sundar Singh's heart became filled with joy and thanksgiving.

The brother was alive. With new courage he struggled on with his burden. And suddenly he saw something lying in front of him on the path.

What was it? He came closer. It was his Tibetan companion who had become tired and sat down for a moment when he had frozen to death only a few minutes away from the village. This story has a message for us today.

The apostle Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians chapter 13 that no matter how great or gifted we are, we don't gain anything if we don't have love. One day we'll be judged according to these words in eternity. Our egoism and self-love is dangerous, yes, deadly.

This is what the mountain death of Sadhu's traveling companion so clearly shows us. But if we would take the other person with his burden upon our shoulders, that would save his life and ours too. It would enrich our lives and make us happy.

Nothing can make us happier than love. This kind of love, however, doesn't just happen. Not one of us can attain it through our own efforts.

But Jesus, the victor and redeemer, wants to fill us with his love. He wants to be the redeemer over all hard-heartedness and selfishness and self-love. If we bring him our failures and claim his victory over and over again in faith, he will pour his love into our hearts.

Yes, Jesus gladly answers the prayer for love because he wants us to radiate his love to all the world.

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