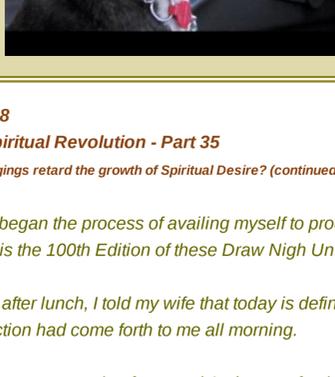


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## Draw Nigh Unto Me .... Part 96

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### Defaced - Week 88

#### God's Coming Spiritual Revolution - Part 35

*So how do spiritual longings retard the growth of Spiritual Desire? (continued)*

Earlier this week I began the process of availing myself to produce this email, which incidentally is the 100th Edition of these Draw Nigh Unto Me messages.

As we sat chatting after lunch, I told my wife that today is definitely not the day as absolutely no direction had come forth to me all morning.

In myself, I had become somewhat frustrated & given up for the day, believing it to be a sealed deal, so to speak, now that I had declared it.

As she left the room I surprisingly found my heart being turned again to listen for Holy Spirit Leading.

In a rare occurrence, I found myself receiving multiple clear points of direction flowing like a river into me.

Enough in fact for some weeks ahead, & believe it or not, the first step was to share about a dog!

Now let us begin this journey to discover the substance of the directional points given to me.

Until I was fifty-four years of age I lived my life never having experienced love for an animal.

I could accept an animal being around but I could never understand the love so many others obviously had for them.

As a child, my family had an outdoor cat & a budgerigar for a short time, but I never became personally attached to either one of them.

In our marriage home, the only animal we ever had was an outdoor cat we inherited with a house, to save it from being put down.

Therefore animals were something around in the background, but never any real part of my life.

One morning, around this time of year, some fourteen years ago my phone rang & all that changed for me.

It was my daughter telling me that a situation had arisen in her home & the older of her two dogs needed to find a new home, today, or she would lose her new puppy.

My animal loving daughter's impassioned pleas eventually brought me, with great reservations in my own mind, to agree to allow the dog into our care.

My wife had no hesitation as she had a fondness for dogs, having been familiar with them from childhood.

Our daughter, being the last of our children had recently left the family home to live independently.

So a major deciding factor for my decision to agree was that I felt an animal may help facilitate my wife's now unfulfilled motherly instinct to nurture.

Indeed it did, so much so that for the first time in my life I found myself literally living with an animal under the same roof as me.

For her motherly instinct would not let him live outdoors, as he had been doing, so he came straight into the home to be pampered with a Mother's love!

They say that a dog is a man's best friend but I could never have imagined the truth of it before that dog called Seth entered my home & my life.

I soon learnt that though he was unable to communicate with me in words he clearly did in every other way.

He was forever ready to go wherever I went, longing to be with me, always watching over me & ready to jump to my defence if required.

When the quiet times came he would often lay at my feet, maintaining close contact by gently touching his body against one foot as he was not a small dog.

All his actions demonstrated unconditional love toward me, yet I was the one trying to learn how to love him!

Yet somehow he taught me to love him because first, he loved me.

His love was suddenly just there, seemingly taking no time to develop & obviously remaining statically in place irrespective of what I did or didn't do.

He was going to love upon me even if I could not find how to love him!

We all have a common need for love but in being human we so often read that as 'I' need love.

Rather than realising we need to truly love in order to find love.

Which too often makes us feel it is our duty to look for love, often bringing results we did not set out to find & having to live with the consequences.

For with such a mindset, any demonstration of fondness or acceptance directed toward us can so easily be perceived as real in an irrational or unwise way.

Yet somehow Seth's unconditional acceptance defied everything I knew of human relationships.

In truth, there is only one other love I know that it aligns with.

#### **The Love Of God For His Children!**

God's Love for me, revealed in Jesus as He came into my life seventeen years earlier!

For my love for God was conceived within the Revelation that First He Loved Me!

Some six & a half years after Seth came to live with us he passed on & I found myself mourning in a way that startled me somewhat.

For me to mourn for an animal was something that previously I would never have thought was even remotely possible.

Seth remains alive in both my heart & memory in much the same way as do my lost relatives & other loved ones.

For indeed he became 'family' to us, another child so to speak.

Yet I never fully knew how much he caused me to love him until I could not stop the emotion that kept welling up in me for some time following his passing.

Unfortunately, wisdom & understanding never seem to come before or during events or happenings in our lives, but inevitably after.

For this very reason it is always wise to give due respect to the wisdom of our elders, but how often do we do it in truth?

Times of mourning can become pools for quiet reflection & many new thoughts & perceptions rise to the forefront that in turn open new perspectives on life & truth.

Such a time came for me following Seth's death & also at various times since whenever I find myself pondering upon the memory of him.

But not so much in the personal sense of remembering where we went or what we did together.

Rather, in the way that accepting this non-verbal being into my personal space unexpectedly touched more than just my emotions.

Hindsight, they say is a wonderful thing for you can turn it into insight.

For the definition of hindsight is the gaining of perception of the significance & nature of events after they have occurred.

Spiritually I have discovered some deeper truths because of knowing the love of an animal & more especially "man's best friend", a dog.

As a Christian, I have always maintained that in God everything happens for a reason in your life & spiritual wisdom grows if you discover any part of it.

In hindsight, the first thing I discovered was that Seth came into my life for more than the reason I saw to accept him into my home.

God had a Purpose, one that is still unfolding here!

Believe it or not, I feel certain in my heart that through all of this Holy Spirit is going to enlighten Truths to us & somehow knit it back together with our study of Jonah.

For I have no intent to simply broadcast how I learnt to love an animal, for millions upon millions already know of that, but rather what spiritual truths have come of it.

Though I enjoyed Seth for his loving fondness & obvious loyalty for me & his companionship, after the mourning & as with any death, the living relationship was over.

I had come to know Seth's love as unconditional, but did I allow him to love me as fully as he might? according to the love he instinctively had for me?

The True answer is no, because in me a concept of self lives, as it does in every other human still breathing, for as long as any of us draw a breath it lives!

In the Kingdom of God, there is no self whatsoever, therefore is it not that the very concept of self is the foundation upon which all sin stands!

#### **1 John 1:8 KJV**

**8** If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

#### **Matthew Henry Commentary on 1 John 1:8**

"We must beware of deceiving ourselves in denying or excusing our sins.

The more we see them the more we shall esteem and value the remedy.

If we deny them, the truth is not in us, either the truth that is contrary to such denial (we lie in denying our sin), or the truth of religion, is not in us.

The Christian religion is the religion of sinners, of such as have sinned, and in whom sin in some measure still dwells.

The Christian life is a life of continued repentance, humiliation for and mortification of sin, of continual faith in, thankfulness for, and love to the Redeemer, and hopeful joyful expectation of a day of glorious redemption, in which the believer shall be fully and finally acquitted, and sin abolished for ever."

It is only with the end of something that hindsight can give life to insight!

It was only in hindsight, after Seth's passing, that I truly saw how unconditional this animal's love had really been toward me, for as he lived self in me set bounds to its clarity.

Insight then revealed self as the one thing that prevented me from full acceptance of the simple purity in which it was given.

For in him I discovered a deeper understanding of the insidiousness of self & how the subtle harmful spreading in a stealthy manner of it is designed to rob, steal, kill & destroy what is good for us.

**God's Love Is Freely Given By Grace & Is Unconditional.**

**He has nothing but good things for us.**

**Remember, it is God's Desire for you to allow Him to love you!**

**Let Go & Let God.**

**Love,  
Mwesigwa**

[Defaced - Week 89 follows next week]

**Your prayers of unity with us for God's Provision are most welcome.**



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