

Filled With Love



What God Forms He Fills

In a few closing words,
Jesus now summarizes eternity past to
eternity future as He prays for us.

Introduction: Jesus desires both that we would be with Him where He is and also that He would be in us. This is an amazing picture how God transforms us into His image.

A. **Formed By God** John 17:24; Genesis 1-2; Psalm 139

“You loved Me before the foundation of the world.”

“I desire that they may...be with Me where I am.”

1. **Before the world was formed:** There was love present before the world was formed. The only way that love can exist is if there is something to love. God did not love Himself—but He did love His ‘otherness.’ His ‘otherness’ is the trinity—the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
2. **Formed out love:** There was love within the Godhead—the trinity. We were ‘formed’ out of that love in the ‘image of God.’ See Genesis 1:26; 2:7
3. **Eden gained-Eden lost:** God desired that we be with Him from the very beginning so He created a place for us called Eden. Because of sin we lost access to Eden.
4. **With God again:** Jesus desires that we be with Him where He is. That is: That we would be with Him in ‘salvation.’ This is also a picture of being in the will of God. When we are in the will of God we manifest His glory to the world. Unless I am where Jesus is, His glory will not be seen in me.

B. **Filled By God** John 17:25-26

“I in them...”

“The love with which You Loved Me may be in them.”

1. **Setting the stage:** Vs :25 reveals that the unbelieving world does not know God. However, believers know that God sent Jesus to the world. *So how will the world know about Jesus?*
2. **The continuing work of Jesus:** In vs :26 Jesus says that He has declared the NAME of God to the disciples and will ‘continue’ to declare it. Jesus continues to this day to reveal God (*Himself*) to us. He does this primarily through the Holy Spirit. See John 14:15-18; 23 in the side bar.
3. **The love of God in us:** “*And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.*” 1 John 4:16

According to Jesus prayer—the love which God loved Him (the Son) would be in us. That takes us backwards BEFORE the foundation of the world in vs. 17:24. The love that was between the Father, Son and Holy Spirit—that pre-creation trinity-love is now in every born again believer.

John 17:24-26 (NKJV)

:24 "Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be ***with Me where I am***, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You ***loved Me before the foundation of the world.***

:25 O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me.

:26 And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the ***love*** with which You ***loved*** Me may be in them, and ***I in them.***"

John 14:15-18; 23 (NKJV)

:15 "If you love Me, ***keep My commandments.***

:16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—

:17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

:18 I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

:23 Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, ***he will keep My word***; and My Father will love him, and ***We*** will come to him and make Our home with him.

Matthew 28:20b (NLT)

“And be sure of this:

I am with you always,
even to the end of the age.”

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord. 2 Cor 3:18