Day 61

> *His divine power has given us everything needed for life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness. Thus He has given us, through these things, His precious and very great promises, so that through them you may escape from the corruption that is in the world because of lust, and may become participants of the divine nature. (2 Pet 1:3-4; NRSV)*

The Bible is clear — we are able to love with God's kind of love only because He first loved us. But what happens if a believer knows in their mind that they are loved, but has trouble really feeling loved and believing God's "precious and very great" promises? There are many Christians who have trusted in Jesus to save them from their sins, and may even have experienced the power of the Holy Spirit in some measure, but they have not truly come to know and receive love from the Father. Such a Christian suffers from a LOVE DEFICIT. The most basic need of the human spirit is love, and in the absence of sufficient love there is terrible pain. It is in the very nature that God gave us to seek relief from pain. This is how a love deficit opens the door of the soul to lust. God's permanent solution to lust is not self-control through will power, but truly knowing His love and receiving His promises. In human families, many adopted children have trouble really feeling a sense of belonging. A Christian who does not feel that sense of belonging in God's family has an orphaned spirit. But what is the truth? "How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!" (1Jn 3:1) God is presenting you with a certificate of adoption stating that He is your Father, with two signature lines at the bottom. The top line has already been signed in the blood of the Lamb: "God the Father through Jesus the Son". The other line is for you to sign – will you?