



Love

Fights  
Back

3 Stories to Save the World

Patrick Johnson



# Love Fights Back

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God is love – we sing it, preach it, and powerfully proclaim it, but for some people the question remains: ***‘Does God really love me?’***

The unequivocal answer is an emphatic ‘YES!’ answers Dr Patrick Johnson, a long-serving minister of the Gospel well-versed in Scripture, who has also been on his own faith journey and taken a long, hard look at this vital question for himself.

The question is, ‘What is God really like?’ Do the three angels’ messages of Revelation 14 show Him to be an angry, vengeful God, a God to be scared of? Or do they rather portray a God we can run to, a God who longs to protect us and save us . . . a God we can trust?

This question is of crucial significance, and the correct answer to it will have eternal ramifications for your own life.


## Extending Love – Trans-European Division

The first key strategic aim of the Trans-European Division is to ‘extend love to the whole person’. Why we may ask, would this ever need to be articulated as a key value, for an organisation thoroughly grounded in the teachings of scripture?

For many and varied reasons, it is sometimes the case that as the teachings of scripture are communicated, error creeps in subtly – not so much as doctrinal error, but at a deeper level, tipping people off balance on the most important matter of all - what God is really like.

“Is it possible”, asks Patrick Johnson, “that as we have communicated and shared the Three Angel’s Message of Revelation 14:6-12, we may have inadvertently, and innocently, tipped our picture of God off balance?”

In this “Love Fights Back” study guide, take a Spirit-filled journey of discovery, with a hope and prayer that a vital message given to first-century Christ-followers, has the same relevance and power for 21st century Christ-followers today, with the overwhelming and liberating message - ‘God is Love’.



# What's the worst thing God can do?

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- 01| Why could God not have created us with the ability to live independent of Him?
- 02| Read Revelation 20:7-10. If sin kills us, why does the Bible seem to suggest that fire is what eventually kills the wicked?
- 03| Why is Jesus' struggle in Gethsemane a significant part of the Gospel?
- 04| Compare Deuteronomy 6:4-8 with Revelation 13:16-17. What is the Beast out of the earth attempting to do?
- 05| How do you react to the idea that the mark of the beast is more about character than anything else?
- 06| How might defining particular instances of God's wrath as withdrawal bring a more positive understanding of some of the harsher stories in the Old Testament?



# The experience of **salvation**

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- 01| How would you define salvation?
- 02| Read 2 Corinthians 5:14-21. Do you agree that reconciliation is the best framework for thinking of salvation from sin? Why? Why not?
- 03| Read 1 Corinthians 5:7; John 1:29; Isaiah 53:7,10. What are the advantages/disadvantages of a 'sacrifice' concept of salvation?
- 04| Read Mark 10:45; 1 Corinthians 6:20. What are the advantages/disadvantages of a 'ransom/redemption' concept of salvation?
- 05| Read Colossians 2:14-15; Revelation 12:9-11. What are the advantages/disadvantages of the 'acquittal in court' concept of salvation?
- 06| Read John 1:14,18; 17:1-4. What are the advantages/disadvantages of the 'revelation of God's character' concept of salvation?



SCAN ME