

## Couples In Bloom - Passion

January 2010

Critics of spiritual passion advise Christians to 'lighten up'. Actually, it is sin that is 'heavy' and restrictive; Jesus' yoke (*literally*: joining) for us is easy and his burden (*literally*: invoice) for us is light ⇒ Matthew 11:30. True freedom powerfully exposes the futility of anesthetic sin and its failure to improve anything. Salvation throws a much better party because the pain is gone, and we have healed scars to prove it. Jesus did the hard part by providing salvation; our easy part is bringing it to those still lost in darkness.

**This great salvation begs a great response, also known as passion.** Great heroic stories inspire people. Folks email them and talk about them all the time. How about salvation? Is the mercy that keeps us from the Hell we deserve and the grace that brings us to the Heaven we do not deserve *worth* communicating all the more? Is the One who paid dearly for these worth passion *greater* than anything else? Every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord ⇒ Isaiah 45:23 + Philippians 2:10-11; those in Hell eternally screaming it in agony and those in Heaven eternally shouting it in ecstasy. We don't know how much time we have left and eternity is too late to tell them. People need to know right now that **God is worthy of all our passionate love right now.**

Beyond great, God is intimate... as if His love was not amazing enough already. Having two way communication with the only true God is just incredible. The prayer closet is the marriage bed for the bride of Christ ⇒ Matthew 6:6. The passionate bride responds to her Bridegroom ⇒ Song of Solomon 8:13-14. The false bride who denied God intimacy will hear Him say, 'Depart from Me to Hell; you gave me your works but not your intimacy' ⇒ Psalm 6:8 + Matthew 7:21-23. Anyone can do good deeds, but God wants relationship. Hell is forever because God's holiness is forever. Heaven is forever for the same reason and also because **God's passionate love for us never ends.**

Christian marriage is modeled after this wonderful love of God. The intensity of intimate marital love is a temporary picture of an eternal truth: *passion*. Couples are to love each other *passionately*, imprisoning everything that hinders submission to God's design for marriage ⇒ 2 Corinthians 10:5. **As a Christian spouse, building a passionate marriage is part of our spiritual worship** ⇒ Colossians 3:17-24, and is not merely an emotional or intellectual duty. It is part of God's will, purpose and blessing. It is holy.

In preparation for ministry and mobility, please use [www.IntimateAnatomy.com](http://www.IntimateAnatomy.com) to contact us, and check out the new website. We are very excited to serve the only true God, and look forward to His sudden return!

♥ Loren & Kathy Falzone

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