

Without Exception or Limitation [355 words]

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Because we do not know how to love perfectly, we cannot presume to know the breadth or depth of God's love. My faith is the belief that it exists and that I am given my portion of that love—whether or not I am thankful for it, or recognize it or even return it. Perfect love does not seek a return on its investment.

To share my life, my love, my joy, my tears, my triumphs with another woman, is not an abomination. If I accept God's love as perfect and without limitation, and have committed my life to living *in* that Love; to being *of* that Perfect Love, then I **must** follow my heart. I **must** follow my Spirit – which *is* God. If I suppress or ignore or condemn my love because my church, family, or society tells me that my love is wrong, then I am responsible for entering into that covenant of deceit. I must acknowledge that I am turning away from God's Love and towards the false idol that is Societal Acceptance.

When I enter a house of worship with the understanding that I cannot bring all that I am; that in that place I can offer up only a part of my Self; if I lift my hand and praise any part of a message that also preaches censorship or intolerance – words that lead me **away** from God's Perfect Love, then I must also own my part in the destruction of my – and my community's– Spirit and life.

It is only when I accept that God's Love is without exception or limitation – ***even if such love is beyond my present capacity to understand or manifest*** – that I can truly say that I dedicate my life to God. And once I understand and accept that God is Love, I am freed from anyone or anything that seeks to limit, control or destroy me in the name of God. I understand that the exceptions and limitations are man-made, not God's decree – because God is Love – and that Love is Perfect – without exception or limitation.