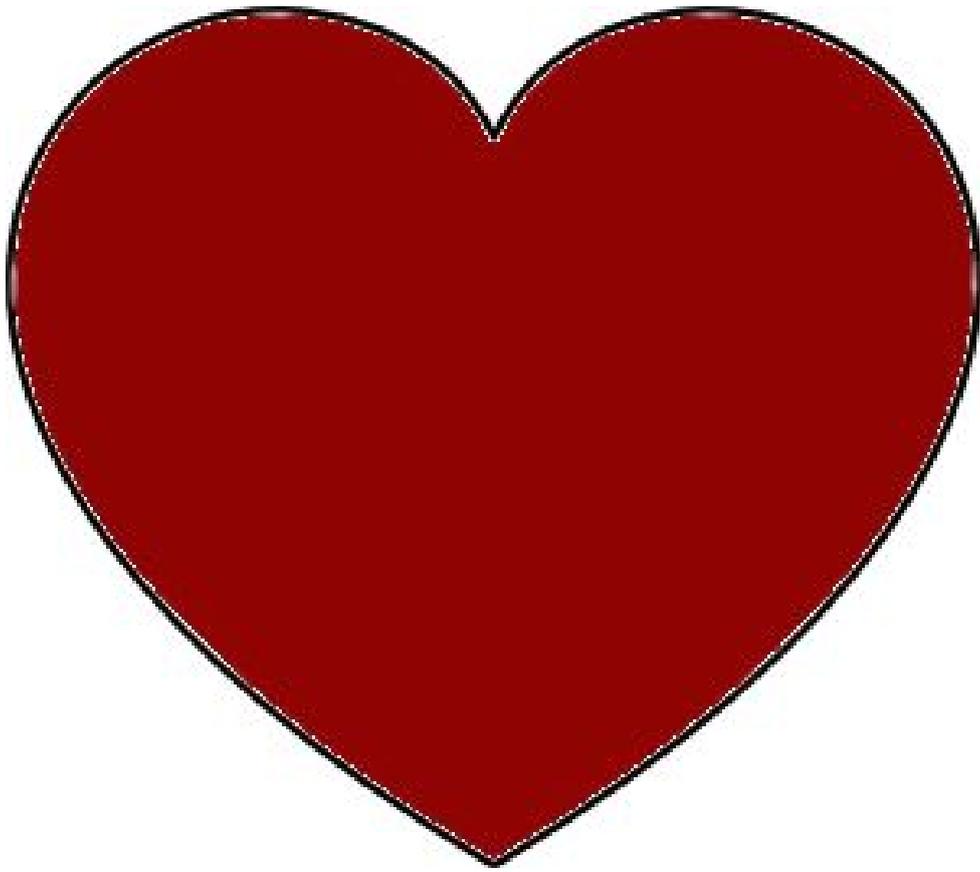


***The Tremendous Love Of God***



***By Cynthia Bailey-Rug***

This book may be freely copied and distributed, but never sold. Please visit <http://www.CynthiaBaileyRug.com> to contact author via her website if you have any questions.

Scripture quotations are taken from the Holy Bible, King James Version, Cambridge, 1769.

**1 John 4:8 "He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love."**

God is gracious!

And kind... and loving... and thoughtful... and so much more! In my years as a born again child of God, I have been blessed beyond comprehension. I have been healed of depression, self-hatred, back problems, and more. He has given me wisdom in dealing with difficult people. He also has filled my life with good friends who share my faith, as well as my likes and dislikes.

In September, 2005, I received an even deeper revelation on just how loving God truly is.

My husband and I share an affection for classic cars. Over the last twelve years my husband and I have been together, I told him about one of the cars my Granddad had when I was quite young, and later gave to my Dad when I was about four years old. I vividly remember riding in this car, an avocado green 1969 Plymouth Fury, sitting in the front seat between my parents, as Conway Twitty played on the eight track stereo. Dad sold this car in 1980, when I was nine years old. I clearly remember that day, with me looking out the back window of my mother's car, watching that Plymouth get smaller and smaller as the distance between us grew...

On September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2005, I saw an avocado green 1969 Plymouth Fury 3. It was in great condition, and looked just like my Dad's car. On a whim, I left a note on the car, including my telephone number, saying I was interested in buying the car if the owner was interested in selling. I did not really expect a response, but I had to try. Three days later, I got a call from the owner- he had been thinking of selling it for about two weeks, and he accepted my offer. I told him we were in the middle of refinancing our mortgage, and as soon as that was done, I would buy the car. At the time, the refinance was to be done within about a week. It turned out, there were constant glitches, and the refinance took about two more months! I prayed often, asking God for favor with this man, because I was so afraid he would get tired of waiting for me and sell the car to someone else. It turned out the seller understood my dilemma, as he had been through a similar situation.

Once I was able to buy the car, my Dad could not wait to see it (guess where I get my love for old cars?). Upon inspecting the car, he realized this car was not merely a twin to his car- this WAS his car! He recognized the ding in the back bumper from where a motorcyclist rearended him in the late 1970's. An odd little dot of black silicone on the chrome trim surrounding the windshield that would not come off for me when I washed the car the first time?

Dad said he had the same trouble- he never could get that off the trim either! When I showed Dad the unusual keys to the car on my keyring, he recognized them as the set of keys he had made not long after he had acquired the car in 1975.

So now, here it is, over four years since I first saw that Plymouth for the first time in over twenty-five years. That beautiful 1969 Plymouth Fury is now sitting in my driveway, and I regularly enjoy driving it around town, while my own Conway Twitty music collection plays on the stereo.

My reason for telling you this story is so you, Dear Reader, will know that God truly cares about you. Of course, He cares about your Salvation, but also about your life here on earth. He wants you to enjoy your life, and to walk in His love. For me, getting this Plymouth proves that. God is so thoughtful: not only has He provided me with things I need, such as food, a lovely home, clothes, but He has given me something I always loved, yet never expected to own, and did not even realize I wanted. He knew me well enough to know I wanted that car, even though I did not realize it myself!

Maybe an old car is not what you would consider proof of God's love, but I am certain you can find proof in your own life of God's love and thoughtfulness. Maybe for you, He showed His love in the form of a new car that you were given unexpectedly, or sent you someone to love when you never expected to get married, or maybe even had a child after doctors had told you that you could never conceive. Ask God to show you proof of His love in your life. Whatever He shows you, I encourage you never to take those for granted! They are ways our Heavenly Father, uses to show you He loves you! Think about it- God dearly loves you! The Creator of the universe loves you!