



# The Love That Satisfies: Reflections on Eros and Agape

By Christopher West

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Building on the legacy of Pope John Paul II, it is significant that the first encyclical letter of Pope Benedict XVI is dedicated to the topic God is Love. The Holy Father demonstrates that it is agape, the self-sacrificial love of God that empowers romantic love, eros, with life-giving and meaningful existence.

In *The Love That Satisfies*, Christopher West draws from the Pope's letter a series of insightful and inspiring reflections on the nature of eros, agape, and the relationship between the two. He shows that it is through recognizing and embracing the beauty of God's self-sacrificial love that a person is able to truly be satisfied. In uniting the love of God to the love of spouse, the nuptial bond is fulfilled. Perhaps even more profound is the reality that God and the Bridegroom of the Church has a personal love for his Bride that may certainly be called eros (Benedict XVI, *Deus Caritas Est*, n. 9).

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### **Editorial Review**

#### About the Author

Christopher West is recognized around the globe for his work promoting an integral, biblical vision of human life, love, and sexuality. He serves as a research fellow and faculty member of the Theology of the Body Institute near Philadelphia. He has also lectured on a number of other prestigious faculties, offering graduate and undergraduate courses at St. John Vianney Seminary in Denver, the John Paul II Institute in Melbourne, Australia, and the Institute for Priestly Formation at Creighton University in Omaha.

In addition, Christopher is the best-selling author of several books, including *Theology of the Body for Beginners*, *Good News About Sex and Marriage*, and *Heaven's Song*, and is also one of the most sought-after speakers in the Church today. Christopher and his wife, Wendy, live with their children near Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

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