**STORY ABOUT LOVE:**

While 'Abdu'l-Baha was a prisoner in 'Akka, there was a man in that city who behaved very badly towards Him.  The man believed that he was following the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad.  He thought that 'Abdu'l-Baha was not a good man and that God did not care how badly the Baha'is were bad.  In fact, he believed that he was showing love for God by showing hatred to the Baha'is.  He hated 'Abdu'l-Baha with all his heart.  That hate grew and festered inside him, sometimes spilling out of him the way water spills out of a broken pot.

In the mosque, when people came to pray, this man would cry out against 'Abdu'l-Baha and say terrible things about Him.  When he passed 'Abdu'l-Baha on the street, he would cover his face with his robe so that he would not see HIm.  Now, this man was very poor and had neither enough to eat nor warm clothes to wear.  What do you think 'Abdu'l-Baha did about him?  He showed him kindness, and sent him food and clothes, and made sure he was being taken care of.

For example, once when this man became very ill, 'Abdu'l-Baha sent him a doctor, paid for his medicine and food, and also gave him some money.  He accepted the gifts from 'Abdu'l-Baha, but did not thank him.  In fact, he held out one hand to the doctor to take his pulse, and with the other hand, covered his face so that he would not have to look upon the countenance of 'Abdu'l-Baha.

And so it went on for many long years.  And then, one day, the man's heart finally changed.  He came to 'Abdu'l-Baha's house, fell at His feet and with a very heavy heart and tears flowing down his face like twin rivers, cried, "Forgive me, Sir!"For twenty-four years I have done evil to You.  For twenty-four years You have shown only goodness to me.  Now I know that I have been wrong.  Please forgive me!"  Thus did the great love of 'Abdu'l-Baha triumph over hatred.