

The Love of Christ

John 3:16

26 November 2021

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

I. His Love Is Unsearchable (Ephesians 3:18-19)

- A. Christ's love covers every dimension (physical and spiritual) all the way to heaven (v.18).
- B. The Love of Christ is more than mankind can know (v.19). It goes beyond what we can understand until we become a child of God through faith in Jesus Christ (Col 1:10, 2 Pet 3:18).
 - 1. Even then, we can learn more about His love every day as we keep searching the scriptures.

II. His Love Is Great (Ephesians 2:4; John 15:13; Romans 5:6-10)

- A. "Great" is a measurement of intensity, of quantity, and of how much.
 - 1. Ephesians 2:4 states that God's love is "great."
 - 2. Jesus said in John 15:13 that laying down your life for a friend is the greatest love a man can produce.
- B. Men have different measurements of love.
 - 1. "I love everybody." This is a very low level of love. It is impractical and unlikely.
 - a. Who is the unlovable person that God has placed in your path?
 - 2. Love for somebody you respect.
 - 3. Love for your spouse.
 - 4. Love for your children.
 - 5. Love for military comrades (a type of brotherhood).
- C. **Romans 5:6-10.** Jesus went beyond laying down His life for a friend. He died for all the ungodly sinners who hate Him. He died for His enemies.
 - 1. God's love is so great that He sent His own Son to die for His enemies.

III. His Love Is Manifest to Us (Titus 3:4, John 1:10-12, 2 Corinthians 8:9)

- A. The kindness and love of God APPEARED to men (**Titus 3:4**).
- B. **John 1:10-12.** We can see God's love in His way of salvation.
- C. We see God's love through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ (**2 Cor 8:9**).

IV. His Love Is Sacrificial (Ephesians 5:2; 1 John 3:16; 4:10)

- A. We are exhorted to love one another sacrificially, as Christ also hath loved us (**Eph 5:2**).
- B. We perceive the love of God by His sacrifice. He laid down His life for us (**1 Jn 3:16**).
- C. Love results in giving (Jn 3:16). If you don't give, you don't love.
 - 1. Parents make sacrifices because they love their children.
 - a. If parents don't love their children, still, the Lord loves them (**Psa 27:10**).
 - 2. Adult children make sacrifices if they love their elderly parents.

D. (1 John 4:10) The Lord Jesus Christ's sacrifice at Calvary is the greatest example of love that there is.

1. By His sacrifice, He made it possible to fellowship with God. This was never possible before (**Isa 59:2**). Jesus Christ took care of the sin that separated us.
 - a. **Good works** could not satisfy God. Everybody is a sinner (**Ecclesiastes 7:20**), therefore our righteous deeds are as filthy rags before a holy God (**Isa 64:6**).
 - I. God gave Israel His **Law**, but nobody could keep it.
 - II. God gave Israel **sacrifices** as a way to make things right with Him, but they were very limited (Hebrews 10:11). Israel didn't have a right heart when they brought God's sacrifices (**Isaiah 1:11, 19**). (Micah 6:6-8).
 - III. God gave **His Son**, Jesus Christ to suffer for us, be rejected by men, and to bear our sins in His body on the tree (**1 Peter 2:21-24**).
 - I. God provided Himself for us (Genesis 22:8) in a miraculous way (Gen 3:15).

V. His Love Is Eternal (Romans 8:35-39)

- A. Nothing can ever separate us from God's wonderful love. (Luke 10:42, John 16:22, Deuteronomy 33:2-3).

***Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy
of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.***