

The 3-D Love of God – Part 2

The Delightful, Difficult, and Decisive Doctrine of the Love of God
Coast Community Church Pastor's Class; Earl Miles; 8-13-17

Part 1 – God is Love

- God is love, He is not simply loving.
- God can not 'not love' because it is His essential character.
- But God's love is not 'flattened out' so that He loves everyone the same.
- We need to recognize distinctions in God's love (love for the worthy and for the unworthy is basic). (see the different ways of talking about God's love)
 - Love for Himself
 - Love for Creation
 - Love for Mankind
 - Love for His People

The Question

Why is the universe? Why is there something and not nothing?

Part 2 - God Loves God

and I have made Your name known to them, and will make it known, **so that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.**" – John 17:26

Why isn't it selfish for 'God to love God'?

John 17 – The Prayer of Jesus

In this passage (prayer), the love of the Father and the Son is spoken of as ...

1. A Mutually Glorifying Love (1, 4, 5)

'Glorify' = (1) praise (2) honor (3) clothe in splendor.

²² For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son, ²³ so that all will honor the Son even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him. – John 5:22-23

2. A Giving Love (2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 22, 24)

The End for Which God Created the World:

- Jonathan Edwards: for the glory of God to be seen and savored.
- As a Gift from the Father to His Son.

Luke 24:27, 44; Revelation 19:10; Colossians 1:15-20

3. An Obedient Love (4, 8, 23, 26)

Obedience is a display of love. We can obey without love but we can love without obeying.

John 14:15; John 14:31a

4. An Eternal Love (5, 24)

This love preceded the foundation of the world and inspired it.

Salvation is a paradigm shift: life revolves around me vs life revolves around the Son!

5. A Revealing Love (6, 26)

The Son is eager to show us what the Father is like. - John 14:1-9

6. A Unified Love (10, 11, 21, 22, 23)

The love of the Father and the Son is 'one' – they love each other the same.

7. A Joyful Love (13)

The kind of love that exists between the Father and the Son is a love that brings joy. - John 15:9-11

8. An Other Worldly Love (14, 16)

Earthly parents and children reflect the love of the Father and the Son but it is incomprehensible and largely foreign to a fallen world – especially in its quality of loving the unlovable for the sake of the lovable.

9. A Declared Love (23, 24, 25, 26)

The Father and Son want us to know that they love each other. - John 14:31a

10. A Shared Love (23, 24, 26)

The Father and Son want us to share in their love for each other. - John 15:11

Why is there something and not nothing?

The Love of the Father for the Son!

Memory Verse - Psalm 89:1