

The Love of God in 3-D – Part 6

The Delightful, Difficult, Decisive Doctrine of God's Love

Romans 8:28-39; Coast Community Church Pastor's Class; Earl Miles; 9-10-17

Theme

We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. – 1 John 4:16a

The Love of God

If we are to understand the revelation of God's love in the Bible, we must include all of this:

God is Love

- The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love. – 1 John 4:8
- God always loves and cannot 'not love'!

The Father Loves the Son

- *For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself is doing; and the Father will show Him greater works than these, so that you will marvel. - John 5:20*
- All that we see in creation, history and redemption is the overflow of the love of the Father for the Son!

God Loves His Creation

- *The Lord is gracious and merciful; Slow to anger and great in lovingkindness. The Lord is good to all, And His mercies are over all His works. – Psalm 145:8-9*
- God loves all that He has made and cares for all He has made.

God Loves All Mankind with Common Grace

- *But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. – Matthew 5:44-45*
- God provides for and protects all men and showers them with good things which come from a heart of genuine love.

God loves Mankind with the Free Offer of the Gospel

- *As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but*

have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. – John 3:14-17

- God loves all men by providing a sufficient Savior for them in Jesus through the cross and offering them the free gift of eternal life through the preaching of the gospel.

How is the love of God for His people different than His love for the world in general?

Book of Romans

1. Gospel for the Sinner: Justification (1-4)
2. Gospel for the Saint: Sanctification (5-8)
3. The Question of Israel: Sovereign Grace and the Free Offer (9-11)
4. Gospel in Everyday Life: Obedience of Faith (12-16)

Gospel for the Saint

1. Peace with God (5)
2. Union with Christ (6)
3. Freedom from Sin's Reign (6)
4. Freedom from the Law's Condemnation (7)
5. Struggle with Indwelling Sin (7)
6. Victory through the Indwelling Spirit (8)
7. Security in God's Electing Love (8)

Love of God for All in Romans

- Romans 2:4 (Common Grace)
- Romans 10:21 (Free Offer of the Gospel)

Security in God's Electing Love for His People - Romans 8:28-39

God Loves His People in All Ways for All Time

'God loves all in some ways ... He loves some in all ways.' – JI Packer

- *But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. – Romans 8:37-39*
- God loves His people like someone loves his wife (Revelation 19:7; Ephesians 5:25-27) or his child (1 John 3:1) or his own body (Ephesians 5:28-30) and is fully committed, with all His heart, to loving them with all that He is and all that He has, for as long as He lives! (Zephaniah 3:17; Jeremiah 32:39-41; Isaiah 62:4-5; Luke 15:20-24; 10:27-37)