

## THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Text: Romans 5:6-8

INTRO: I've never had any trouble believing in a Supreme Being. There are just too many things that cannot otherwise be explained. And I've never had any trouble believing that a Supreme Being can do things we humans can't do. That's what makes Him supreme. He can walk on water, heal the sick, raise the dead, etc.

But the thing I find hardest to believe is how much He loves me. I know that it's true. I believe it, & I try constantly to believe it more fully. But it's hard to believe anyone could love me as much as Jesus did and does.

And one of the areas that many Christians fall short in is this element of love: love for God, love for the Scripture, love for one another. Jesus probably spoke more about love than any other subject. He left a command that we love one another, JN 13:34. Love is a distinguishing characteristic of the people of God, JN 13:35. Love covers a multitude of sins, 1 Pet 4:8.

Jesus set the pattern for love in His words, in His deeds, in His death, and in His promises.

### I. LOVE WAS DEMONSTRATED IN HIS ATTITUDES.

#### A. Toward the spiritual needs of man.

But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary & scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. (MT 9:36).

#### B. Toward those who were outcasts. READ JOHN 8:3-11.

#### C. Toward those with physical problems.

And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; & He was moved with compassion for them, & healed their sick. (MT 14:14).

#### D. Toward those who mean well but fall short thru weakness of the flesh. READ MATT 26:40-46.

### II. LOVE WAS DEMONSTRATED IN THE EXAMPLES HE SET.

#### A. Toward young children. READ MARK 10:13-16.

#### B. Toward those who suffered bereavement, JN 11:33-36.

#### C. Toward a wicked, backsliding city, MATT 23:37.

III. HIS LOVE WAS DEMONSTRATED IN HIS DEATH.

READ JOHN 15:12-14, 17

- A. He willfully died to pay the price of sin. He could have avoided death but love drove Him to redeem fallen man. John 10:18; Matt 26:53
- B. Many choose not to avail themselves of it, but the blood of Jesus is sufficient to pay for all the sins of all the sinners who have ever lived or who ever will live. Whoever wants to may benefit. Rev 22:17; Gal 3:26-27; Rom 6:3-4

IV. HIS LOVE IS DEMONSTRATED IN HIS PROMISES.

- A. Promise of comfort & rest, Matt 11:28-30
- B. Promise of forgiveness, Matt. 26:28.
- C. Promise of life abundant, without end, in heaven. John 14:1-3

CONCLUSION: He couldn't have loved us more. He can't expect any less of us than to love one another. And to love Him in return.

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