

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDEROUS CROSS... I SEE THE LOVE OF GOD.

INTRO.:

A. Read text: Rom. 5:8; John 3:16.

B. Regarding the text:

1. What do you see as you survey the cross of Christ? Several -- God's love is one thing.
2. We need God's love because we sin. **Isa. 53:6.**
3. Sin separates us from God (**Isa. 59:1-2, Ezekiel 18:20**). “
4. This passage presents the **object, gift, purpose and nature of God's love.**

DISCUSSION: IN THE SHADOW OF THE CROSS I SEE...

I. THE OBJECT OF GOD'S LOVE.

A. His love was revealed in Gen. 3:15.

1. Sin was introduced in the Garden of Eden. Yet, God's love made a promise.
2. From Eden until NOW we have been guilty of sin (**Rom. 3:23**).

B. BUT – notice our text: God “so” loved the world.

1. His love was demonstrated. He acted for our good (**Isa. 53:6; Rom. 5:8**).
2. God's love is for everyone “loved **the world**” (**Acts 10:35; Rom. 2:11**).

C. The Gospel is for all.

1. Gospel to be preached to all (**Mark 16:15-16, Matt. 28:18-20**).
2. Everyone is amenable to the Gospel of Christ (**Rom. 1:16**). Jew and Gentile alike!

II. THE GIFT OF GOD'S LOVE – THE ONLY BEGOTTEN SON.

A. Rom. 6:23. Note Rom. 3:23; 1 John 1:8, 10. We do sin!

1. However, God's gift gave men hope. God gave his Son.

B. He gave his only begotten son – the ONLY ONE!

1. He delivered His son up for us (**Rom. 4:25; 8:32; John 6:38**).
2. His Son left Heaven and was clothed in human flesh (**John 1:14; Rom. 8:3**).

C. One of the attributes of God is love (1 John 4:8, 9, 19).

D. Genuine Love sacrifices (John 3:16; Heb. 9:28).

III. THE PURPOSE OF GOD'S LOVE IS TO SAVE MAN.

A. Without God's love, man would be doomed for destruction (Rom. 6:23).

B. The mission of Christ was to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10).

C. God wants us to be saved (1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Pet. 3:9).

IV. THE NATURE OF GOD'S LOVE.

A. His love for me is unconditional. He loves us no matter what.

B. How much – how deeply does God love you?

1. Parents often ask a little child: “How much do you love me?” The answer is usually a kiss and a great big hug.
2. However, if you put that same question to God, He will point to the cross of Jesus – **“That’s how much.”**

V. CONCLUSION:

A. We prove our love by obeying his commandments (1 John 5:3).

B. How can we demonstrate our love for Him? Love Him in return (John 14:15, 23).

C. Someone said, “Love which is not returned is a lonely thing!”