

GOD LOVES US!

10/27/2024 AM

INTRO.:

A. Read text: Romans 5:1-8.

B. Regarding the text:

1. God has many attributes...
 - 1) He is merciful (**Ex. 34:6** "... The LORD God, merciful and gracious...")
 - 2) Full of compassion (**Ps. 86:15** "... a God full of compassion...")
 - 3) Many more could be listed...
2. These attributes demonstrate His love for us.
 - 1) His love was demonstrated by the giving of Christ while we were yet sinners!
 - 2) This love was poured out for both the good man and the sinner.
3. Let's focus on verses **7-8**.
 - 1) **Vs. 7:** Some of us would willingly die for a good person.
 - 2) **Vs. 8:** "...commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."
4. God's love has NO restrictions (Race, social standing, friend or foe...).

DISCUSSION: LET US OBSERVE...

I. WHAT DOES COMMENDED MEAN?

A. The word commendeth (*sunistemi*) means to declare or prove.

B. God declared his love for sinful man by having his Son die on the cross.

1. The most sublime truth of all time is stated here: "Christ died for us."
2. This is the grand theme of God's eternal plan.
 - 1) **John 3:16; 1 John 3:16** "Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us..."
 - 2) **John 10:18** "No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself..."

C. The love of God is the heart of the Bible's message. Without His love there would be no hope for anyone!

II. WHY WAS IT COMMENDED?

A. The demonstration of His love for us! Not just words.

B. Mankind has a serious problem... (SIN!)

1. Without the demonstration of God's love man would be forever lost.
 - 1) **1 John 2:2** "And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."
 - 2) **1 John 4:9-10** "In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."
 - 3) **Rom 3:25** "Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God."
 - a. Propitiation: the means of appeasing; atonement, reconciliation.
 - b. Reconciliation is proof of God's love. Redeemed by His love.
2. NOTE: **Rom 3:23-25** "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God."

III. WHAT IS TO BE OUR REACTION TO SUCH LOVE?

A. Do we demonstrate our love to the Lord?

B. How do we prove our love for Him?

1. By putting Him first:

- 1) **Matt. 10:37** "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me."
- 2) **Luke 14:26** "If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple."
 - a. To love less.
 - b. If we are not willing to put Him first, we have our priorities in the wrong place!
- 3) **Mark 12:30** "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment." **ALL!**

2. Our love for Him requires giving Him our all.

- 1) **Deut. 10:12-13** "And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to **fear the LORD** thy God, **to walk in all his ways**, and **to love him**, and **to serve the LORD** thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, **To keep the commandments** of the LORD, and his statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good?"
 - a. **To fear**: To recognize His power and majesty. (**Psa. 100:3** "Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.")
 - b. **To walk** in ALL His ways: To recognize His authority. (**Jer. 10:23** "O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.")
 - c. **To love** Him: **1 John 4:19** "We love him, because he first loved us."
 - d. **To serve Him** fully: To serve Him no matter the consequence. (Some serve until things get difficult. **1 Thess. 1:9** "... turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God." Even though persecuted!
 - e. **To obey Him**: Obedience is the demonstration of our love. (**John 14:15** "If ye love me..." NOTE the contrast: **John 14:24** "He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.")

3. Our love for God cannot be forced upon us.

- 1) True love is never forced.
- 2) It is demonstrated by a willing heart.

IV. CONCLUSION:

A. God's love for mankind is without question!

1. One can never say, "I wonder... does God love me?"
2. He gave His very best for us.

B. Is His love honored and returned by loving Him in return?