

The Love of God
John 3:14-17
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want us to remember some of the great blessings because of the love of God.

Introduction

I. God's love for man in the Old Testament

A. At creation

1. God created a place where man can thrive.
 - a. Earth is designed around man (**Gen 1:26**)
2. God created a place for man before placing him in the garden (**Gen 2:8**).

B. In the marriage bond

1. (**Gen 2:18**) God saw that man needed a companion.
2. God created the perfect companion for man (**Gen 2:21-22**)
3. We could add it's seen in the lessons we learn from the prophets and the old testament, the list is long

II. God's love displayed in Christ

A. Departure

1. God's sacrifice involving Christ includes sending out of Heaven, away from His presence.

- a. God had to send Him away for us to have a chance to come to Him.

2. Christ had to leave Heaven before man could have the hope of heaven.

B. Ridicule

1. Christ was rejected by many and ridiculed by those who were supposedly religiously Knowledgeable; these men did much of this by arguing against truth and instead argued for their traditions.

- a. The Jews, Pharisees & the Scribes (**Mark 7:1-6a**)
- b. The Sadducees (*Lk 20:27-ff*)

C. Teaching

1. Upon the beginning His ministry Christ taught constantly (**Mt 4:17,23**)

D. Sacrifice

1. Christ endured mental ridicule, physical torture, and spiritual trials for the sake of Mankind.
2. Christ's reason for enduring such things is because of His love for mankind (**John 3:14-17**)

III. Points to consider

A. How does man reply to God's love?

1. Man often times replies with indifference (Malachi 1:2a), rebellion (**Jeremiah 19:14-20:2**) or mocking (**Acts 2:5-8,13**)
2. The Bible reminds us that not everyone goes to heaven (**Mt 7:21**)

B. How SHOULD man reply to God's love?

1. Man's only right reply is in complete obedience to God's Will (His Word)
 - i. **Acts 2:37-41**

Application & Conclusion:

1. God's love is seen every day, from sunrise to sunrise.
2. How have you replied to God's love for you? Is it time you act correctly?
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9