

SUBJECT: God's Great Love

TEXT: Ephesians 2:4, 5. "But God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love with which He loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us (made us alive) together with Christ (by grace are ye saved).

CHARACTERISTICS OF GOD'S GREAT LOVE

- **God's love passes knowledge**

- Ephesians 3:19. And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.

- **God is Love**

- 1 John 4:7, 8. Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God, and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.
- It is not merely that God loves, but that He is love itself. God does not have "to love" – God "is" love. Love is not simply one of His attributes, but is His very nature.
- God's love is totally uninfluenced by anything outside of Himself. There was nothing in man to prompt God's love of us (Romans 5:8 – 10; Titus 3:3 – 6)
- God loved us before we had even one ounce of loved towards Him. (Deuteronomy 7:6, 7; 1 John 4:10)
- God's love never conflicts with His light (holiness). Reference: 1 John 1:5. This, then is the message which we have heard of Him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all.
- God's love never conflicts with His holiness. God under no circumstances ever excuses sin. God's love is only through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. Romans 5:8 – 11; Ephesians 1:6,7; Revelation 1:5
- God chastises sin in the Believer. Hebrews 12:5 – 11

- **God's Love is Manifested (Made Known) through Jesus Christ**

- John 3:16. For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
- 1 John 4:9. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, that God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.

- **God's Love is Eternal**

- Jeremiah 31:3. The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love; therefore, with loving-kindness have I drawn thee.
- James 1:17. Every good gift, and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

- **God's Love is Inseparable.**

- Romans 8:35 – 39. Who (what) shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come. Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature (creation), shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord

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