

SERMON: MANIFESTATIONS OF HIS LOVE

Romans 5:8

But God commendeth His love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Introduction

We are all sociable creatures. We are wired that way. We all need love, understanding, and acceptance. Even introverts need some social or personal interaction. It is amazing that during creation God said repeatedly, "It is good," until He declared that Adam had no companion. Then God said it is not good that man should be alone. He put Adam to sleep, extracted one of his ribs, and created his companion, Eve. God could have created Eve from the dust of the earth just as He had created Adam. He had already gotten His hands in the dirt, so He could have created one more human with ease. While creating Eve from dust would have been simpler, that was not His plan. God wanted there to be a connection between the two. He wanted them to become one flesh. This connection extends far beyond marriage. All of humankind is connected in ways too numerous to list here. The Bible does state in Acts 17:26 that out of one bloodline God created all people. I wish all of us would realize this fact. I say again, we all need love, but sometimes we try to gain it in the wrong way and we get hurt and sometimes hurt others.

When love is expressed, these questions come to mind: "Is it true love? Am I being used? If I give my heart away, will it be broken? Am I being deceived?" The late Whitney Houston recorded the song *How Will I Know?* that addressed these concerns. In the humorous movie *Coming To America*, the young prince came to a foreign country and did not disclose his royalty to see if someone would love him just for himself and not for his status.

Sometimes in our relationships we are asked to prove our love. In response, sometimes we seek to prove our love by giving expensive gifts, spending more quality time, or providing acts of service. In our text, Paul says that God proved His love for us, without us asking Him. He proved it by sending Jesus to die on the cross for us. There are many other manifestations of God's love for us. Let's look at a few.

Exposition

1. God's Love Is Manifested When He Ministers To Our Needs.

(Philippians 4:19.)

2. God's Love Is Manifested When He Chastises Us To Correct Us.

(Psalm 94:1; Hebrews 12:5-7.)

**3. God's Love Is Manifested When He Comforts Us In Our Afflictions.
(Psalm 34:19; Isaiah 43:2; Isaiah 63:9.)**

**4. God's Love Is Manifested When He Gives Us Indescribable Joy.
(Galatians 5:22; 1st Peter 1:8.)**

Closing Thoughts

You can discover the intellect of God when you study science. You can discover the awesomeness of God when you see the mountains. You can discover the vastness of God when you study the stars. You can discover the beauty of God when you study flowers. You will only discover the love of God in its fullness when you look at the cross. Let our hearts be filled with love, real love, the love of God in Christ that was manifested on the cross of Calvary. Since God manifested His amazing love toward us, let us manifest that same divine love toward others – even our enemies. Give God Glory! Give God All the Glory!

End Note

The Greek word the King James Version translates as commendeth, can also be translated as to demonstrate, to prove, to exhibit, or to manifest.

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