

God Loves You

Text : Romans 8:31-39

INTRODUCTION :

A. In your life, who has hurt you worst ?

1. Most commonly it is someone we love who hurts us the worst.
2. We let down our guard with those we love so they can hurt us more than others.
3. At some point, ever person lets others down.
 - a. It's a mark of humanity; we all do it, even you.
 - b. We develop higher expectations of those we love. (Often unrealistic)

B. God is the only one who will never let us down.

1. God is NOT human.
 - a. He's not limited by the flesh.
 - b. He has none of the frailties which are common to man. (*self-involvement*)
 - c. God is never deceived. (Never .. "But I thought ...")
2. God alone is totally consistent.
 - a. No human can be consistent. (The flesh is weak and we don't discipline it.)
 - b. Even when one wants to be consistent, he can't be. e.g, **Rom. 7:14f**
 - c. Jesus was the only human to ever be consistent.
3. The very nature of God is love. (**It's what He is, not what He does.**)
 - a. **I John 4:8- The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.**
 - b. God is infinite in ALL His attributes. (**He's not a little bit anything.**)
 - c. God must always be what He **IS ... LOVE.**

C. You can totally count on God being there for you.

1. God Loves you and He will never change. (**always has & always will**)
2. His love is not based upon an emotion. (They come and go.)
3. God's love is based upon His nature.

D. God's love for man is a natural thing for Him.

1. He created man in His own image.
2. Even mere men naturally love their offspring. (**adopt if no natural offspring**)
3. Our love for our children is not earned and does not stop when they disappoint us.

Our text explains why we can be trust in God's unending love for us.

I. Vs. 32 God's love is proven.

A. Who can doubt the love of one who has proven His willingness to sacrifice Himself and even die a very cruel death to save you.

1. **When a rich man has given you the most valuable thing he owns, would you doubt His willingness to give you something of lesser value ?**
2. Nothing can compare to the life of God's Only Begotten Son.
3. Who do you love well enough to give one of your children to be crucified ?
 - a. Someone with whom you have no relationship ? **Who doesn't even like you ?**
 - b. How about one of your neighbors or a close friend ?
 - c. Perhaps a sibling ? a parent ? your spouse ?

*** God loves you so much He gave His Only Begotten Son to save you.**

- 1) From the consequences of something that was your OWN fault.
- 2) You freely chose to sin. **No one forced you to do it. You deserve to be punished.**

B. God's love is not earned and it's not dependant upon our deserving it.

1. **Read ... Rom. 5:3-10**
2. When God tells us to love our enemies, He's telling us to be like He is.
3. None of us deserve God's love or the sacrifice Jesus made for us.

*** But thank God for it !!!!**

C. God gave us the same proof of love He asked of Abraham.

1. **Gen. 22:1-18** (Tell the story.)
 - a. Abraham traveled far from home to offer the sacrifice. (**3 days to think about it vs- 4**)
 - b. Abe didn't want to loose his only son, especially being as old as he was.
2. God wants for us to have the same reaction to His sacrifice that He had to Abraham's.
 - a. **Vs. 16-17** and said, "By Myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies.
 - b. Do we bless God for having given His only son to us ? (**requite His love ??**)
 - c. Do we seek to multiply His seed and give Him victory over His enemies ?

*** God's unconditional love for man is proven and so never doubt it.**

II. Vs. 31, 33-34 We can trust God's love to always protect us.

A. The one who created the universe cannot be defeated by His own creation.

1. Those in Rome knew about power. **Who** would dare challenge Rome ?
2. Likewise, when you are a part of the sovereign God's kingdom, who can defeat you ?

B. There is nothing that God will not do to protect His own.

1. **John 3:16** ... In Jesus God has already proven His commitment to His children.
2. **Rom. 8:1** ... The sacrifice of Jesus secured God's children. (**imputed, not merit**)
3. Jesus has promised to protect those who are in Him.
 - a. **John 10:27-29** ... Those in Christ are out of Satan's reach.
 - b. **I Pet. 1:3-5** **Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.**

C. There is no foundation for a child of God to fear or to doubt.

1. God is seeking to save you, not to condemn.
2. God's greatest desire is for man to be with Him eternally.
 - a. **When separated from someone you love you long to have them back.**
 - b. God has done everything He can do to get His children back.
 - c. He will not force those He loves to love Him in return, but strongly desires it.
3. By Sacrificing Jesus, God has proven he will do whatever is required to get His children back and no less to keep them once He has them.
 - a. The concept that God is just waiting to condemn people is FALSE doctrine.
 - b. Christians have security both in this age and in the age to come.
 - c. **Heb. 13: 5-6** **Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you," ⁶ so that we confidently say, "The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid. What will man do to me?"**
 - d. God is worthy of our complete trust. We are secure in Him.

*** The fruit of the Christian's faith is peace in his heart. He knows God is in control.**

III. Vs. No one can take God's love away from His children.

A. This is not to say that Satan will not try; he will and he will never stop.

1. The word devil (**dee-ab-ol-os**) means prone to slander, slanderous, accusing falsely.
2. **Rev. 12: 10-** Then I heard a loud voice in Heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night.
3. As Satan makes accusations against God's children, Jesus is there to defend us.

B. Satan tries to make it appear that God has forsaken us.

1. When we fall into hard times, it appears God has withdrawn His favor.
 - a. All of us sometimes don't have all that we want or think that we need.
 - b. When the economy goes down people tend to feel insecure.
2. There are times when people oppress us and the temptation is to ask, "why did God ...?"
 - a. We have no persecutions like those in other places.
 - b. We have no persecutions like the Christians of old.

*** No matter what happens to us on earth, our place in Heaven with God is secure.**

C. Sometimes we set up false measures of God's love.

1. I know God loves me if He gives me what I want, when I want it, and as much as I want.
 - a. God doesn't love me because He didn't let me get that new house I wanted. (**With falling values and raising interest rates, that may have been a blessing.**)
 - b. God doesn't love me because He let me get sick. **etc.** (**Paul .. II Cor. 12:8-9**)
2. God's love is not measured in terms of physical blessings.

D. Paul reassures them in the terms of a Jewish rabbi.

1. Life nor death ... Even death cannot separate us from Christ.
2. "Angels" cannot separate.
 - a. The Jews had a well developed body of superstition about angels. (**almost animistic**)
 - b. They believed EVERYTHING had an angel. (Plants, Animals, Wind, etc.)
 - c. They taught there were three levels of angels ... highest was principalities.
3. Heights or depths referred to astrology ... heavenly bodies ascending and descending.
4. "Things present or to come" .. Jews divided all things into this age and the age to come."

*** Nothing can ever separate a Christian from the love and protection of God.**

CONCLUSION :

A. When you get all down, discouraged and begin to doubt that God loves you.

1. That's the devil talking to your heart. (**tempting you**)
2. You need to have this passage marked in your bible.
3. Read it when you're down or when you begin to doubt.

B. When things are hard financially read this passage.

(Time permitting, read the text.)

C. The trials that come upon you come from Satan not from God.

1. **James 1: 12-18** ... God sends ONLY good.
2. If we view our trials with the proper attitude, they will give us strength. **James. 1:2-4**

D. Because God loves you, He wants you to be saved.

1. He has done all He can to draw you back to Him.
2. He has demonstrated His love in Jesus.
3. Now you must choose to accept His gift of love and reciprocate.

INVITATION :