

Advent: The Sacrificial Love of Jesus

Ephesians 3:17-19

¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God



John 6:38-40, 51

³⁸ For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. ³⁹ And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. ⁴⁰ For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. ... ⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.

John 6:51

I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.

Romans 1:28-32

²⁸ And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. ²⁹ They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, ³⁰ slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, ³¹ foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. ...

Romans 1:28-32, cont'd

... ³² Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

Romans 5:8

but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

“God-like love which took the cup resolutely, with both its hands, and drank right on, and never stayed its dreadful draught till the Lord had drank damnation dry for all His people, swallowing up their deaths in His own most comprehensive death.”

-Charles Spurgeon

Isaiah 53:12: "He was numbered with the transgressors, and He bore the sin of many."

Isaiah 53:6: "The Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all."

2 Corinthians 5:21: "He made Him to be sin for us who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

Galatians 3:13: He became "a curse for us—for it is written 'cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree.'"

“Before we can begin to see the cross as something done for us ... we have to see it as something done by us”

-John Stott

John 15:13

Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

“I only know Divine unconditional, radical and reckless love for me when I dare to approach God just as I am.”

-David G. Benner

John 15:12

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”

John 13:34: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another."

1 John 3:16: By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.

1 John 4:10-11: ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

Ephesians 5:1-2

- ¹ Therefore, be imitators of God, as beloved children.
- ² And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

John 15:9

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you.”

Hebrews 12:1b-2

¹ ... let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

“and that which is at the end of the road influences everything that takes place along the road.”

-Eugene Peterson