

God's AMAZING Love For YOU!

- The devil's weapon of choice for believers is shame. Shame stops you from drawing near to God. Shame stops you from stepping into intimacy with God. And shame stops you from growing into the best possible version of yourself.
- God invites you to step into a relationship with Him based on His *Amazing Love*, His *Overwhelming Grace*, His *Unlimited Forgiveness*, and His *Irresistible Kindness*. God only focuses on the best possible version of you, and He wants you to grow into it.
- Psalm 139:13-18 - God wrote a book about you before you were even born. You are fearfully and wonderfully made, an absolute work of art. The book describes you growing into the very best possible version of yourself. Because God wrote the book on you and me, He is not surprised by our failures and our setbacks.
- Isaiah 30:18-19 tells us that God is waiting and longing to be gracious to you. He is waiting to pounce on you with compassion...

James 2:1-13 (NKJV):

"My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with partiality. For if there should come into your assembly a man with gold rings, in fine apparel, and there should also come in a poor man in filthy clothes, and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say to him, "You sit here in a good place," and say to the poor man, "You stand there," or, "Sit here at my footstool," have you not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?

Listen, my beloved brethren: Has God not chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?...

If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well; but if you show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all. For He who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery, but you do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty. For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. **Mercy triumphs over judgment.**"

- We only judge others when we do not understand God's love towards us. We judge others when we do not understand that **mercy triumphs over judgment...**

Romans 2:1-4 (NKJV):

"Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever

you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. But we know that the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things. And do you think this, O man, you who judge those practicing such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of God? Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that **the goodness of God leads you to repentance?**”

- When we judge others it only reveals the sin in our own lives...
- **The goodness of God leads us to repentance...**
- We judge others when we do not understand God’s love towards us, and that the goodness of God is what leads us to turn to Him...

**Only when our eyes are closed to God’s Love do we judge others...
Mercy triumphs over judgment...
We need our eyes open to see the incredible love of God...**

Ephesians 3:14-21:

“For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height — to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”

Paul Prayed That Every Believer (Not The Lost) Would Be...

- *Strengthened* With Might Through His Spirit In The Inner Man...
- *Drawn* Into Intimacy
- *Rooted & Grounded* In Love
- *Able* To Comprehend God’s Love For Us

I John 3:1 (NIV) - “How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are...”

The Love of God:

1) OUT OF THIS WORLD...

"How great is the love..." One translation of this verse says, "Behold, what exotic[foreign to the human heart] love the Father has permanently bestowed upon us..."

2. OVERBOARD IN ITS EXPRESSION...

"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us..."

God's Love is *Lavish Love*, **Overboard Love**. He goes **Overboard** with it, *lavishing* it upon us, giving it to us generously, abundantly, extravagantly, freely, and without restraint. It is freely poured out. God's Love is like the Amazon River sent to water one little daisy!

○ How "OVERBOARD" is God's Love?

- Psalm 36:5-8: "Your love, Lord, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies. Your righteousness is like the highest mountains, your justice like the great deep. You, Lord, preserve both people and animals. How priceless is your unfailing love, O God! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings. They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights."
- Psalm 103:10-12: "He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us."
- Psalm 108:4: "...great is your love, higher than the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies."
- Jeremiah 31:3: - "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness."
- The expression, "His Love Endures Forever..." occurs over 40 times in the Bible!

3. OFFERED BY GRACE...

"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us..." *God's Love* is **offered** by grace. There is nothing we can do to earn it, deserve it, obtain it. It is simply **offered** to us by grace – Ephesians 2:8,9.

4. OPENLY INVITES US TO BE HIS CHILDREN...

“How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God...” John 1:12,13 - To as many as received Him, He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe on His name. He ***Openly Invites*** us to become His children:

- Romans 8:15-17 (NIV): “The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs —heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ...”

5. OVERHAULS THOSE WHO RECEIVE IT...

“How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! **And THAT is what we are...**”

God's Love Overhauls Those Who Receive It. It transforms us! We aren't just called His children, but we are transformed to live like it!

When you see His love for you, it will totally ***Overhaul*** you and transform you so that you no longer live for yourself, but Him. When you really see it, it will transform you. **“...And THAT is what we are...”**