

Relationship Status

February 25, 2024

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1 John 4:7-8 *"My beloved friends, let us continue to love each other since love comes from God. Everyone who loves is born of God and experiences a relationship with God. The person who refuses to love doesn't know the first thing about God, because God is love."*

Romans 5:6-8 *"You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."*

1 Kings 4:29;32 *"And God gave Solomon wisdom and exceedingly great understanding, and largeness of heart like the sand on the seashore..."*

I. GOD'S LOVE IS UNLIMITED IN EXTENT.

Matthew 5:43-45 *"You have heard it said," (that is in your Jewish theology,) you shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy." But I say to you, love your enemies." "In order that you may be sons of your father who is in Heaven."*

Mark 10:17;19-21 *"What do I do to have eternal life?" 19 "Do not murder, commit adultery, steal, bear false witness, defraud, and then honor your father and your mother." 20 "teacher, I've kept all these things from my youth up. I never have broken the law." 21 "Look, go sell everything you have, take your money, give it to the poor and then follow me." verse 21 "and looking at him Jesus. Loved him."*

John 3:16 (also 1 John 4:14) *"And we have beheld and bear witness that the father has sent the son to be the savior of the world."*

II. WAYS IN WHICH THIS UNLIMITED EXTENT IS MANIFEST...

1. COMMON GRACE. (MATTHEW 5:45)
2. IT IS A LOVE OF COMPASSION. (PSALM 147:3 & NEHEMIAH 9:19)
3. THE LOVE OF WARNING.

2 Thessalonians 1:5-10 *"All this trouble is a clear sign that God has decided to make you fit for the kingdom. You're suffering now, but justice is on the way. When the Master Jesus appears out of heaven in a blaze of fire with his strong angels, he'll even up the score By settling accounts with those who gave you such a bad time. His coming will be the break we've been waiting for. Those who refuse to know God and refuse to obey the Message will pay for what they've done. Eternal exile from the presence of the Master and his splendid power is their sentence. But on that very same day when he comes, he will be exalted by his followers and celebrated by all who believe—and all because you believed what we told you."*

4. HIS LOVE IS MANIFESTED IN THE GOSPEL OFFER.

Matthew 11:28-30 *"Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."*

APPLICATION:

1. Meditate on the love of God (1 John 3:1).

"What marvelous love the Father has extended to us! Just look at it—we're called children of God! That's who we really are. But that's also why the world doesn't recognize us or take us seriously, because it has no idea who he is or what he's up to."

2. Know and believe the love that Jesus has for you (1 John 4:13-16).

“This is how we know we’re living steadily and deeply in him, and he in us: He’s given us life from his life, from his very own Spirit. Also, we’ve seen for ourselves and continue to state openly that the Father sent his Son as Savior of the world. Everyone who confesses that Jesus is God’s Son participates continuously in an intimate relationship with God. We know it so well, we’ve embraced it heart and soul, this love that comes from God.”