

# GOD'S

# LOVE



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The best way that we can know of God's love for us is by what He has said and done for us. Words may express love, but actions confirm it. As the saying goes, **'actions speak louder than words'**.

1 John 4:10, *"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."*

The greatest expression of love that there has ever been, was when God sent His Son to this earth to suffer for three and a half years for the contradiction of sinners and then to hang alive for six hours on a cross. This has all been done for us, that we might be delivered from the power of sin and Satan. That is the greatest expression of love that there is, or ever has been, in the world. That is the greatest foundation or inspiration for our faith that we could ever have.

All the troubles and problems in this world has been caused by man's ignorance of God and His great love for us. Thus, sin entered in and took control. Sin has made the natural man to be deaf, dumb, and blind to all the love that God has in store for them.

When God placed man on this earth, in the Garden of Eden, He made him a little lower than the angels. He

gave man the power of choice and placed him in control of this world. As long as man kept this world in the 'will of God', he enjoyed peace, blessing, health, and protection. Man enjoyed every blessing that God had intended for him to have. But, when he used his power of choice and started out on a career of his own, to turn away from having God as his ruler and guide, it was taken out of God's hands and placed into the hands of Satan. Man's rebellious attitude has been the cause of all the trouble we see in this world.

Romans 5:12, *"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."*

The moment we realize what God's love has done and under what conditions it was done, it will clear away all doubt and uncertainty that ever stood between us and God. Anything that has ever confused us or could not understand in our Christian life or hindered us in our prayer life, will clear up and place a confidence in our heart that will laugh at impossibilities and place a real confidence in our heart that our prayers are heard and answered. We will be able to draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith; we will be able to hold fast our profession of faith, without wavering and prove that He is faithful that hath promised.

One of the greatest hindrances in praying and receiving our answers to prayer is our own condition. For an example, you will hardly have finished your prayer when a suggestion will come softly and subtly to your mind. "This prayer won't be answered," Then you start wondering why. Then another thought will come, "You know you're not good enough, God only answers prayer for good people, you're not living a good Christian life, look at your experience, consider the incident that just happened; you don't have enough faith."

We start to accept these suggestions as our own thoughts, not stopping to think that they are directly from the father of lies, the devil himself. We lay aside the conditions under which God has given His greatest gift.

If answers to prayer depended upon our worthiness or upon our goodness, there would never be any prayers answered, neither are they answered because of our faith. The only reason that God answers our prayers is

because of the atoning work of His Son on Calvary's Cross and His great love for us.

God never answers prayer because we have faith, faith has no ground of merit in God's sight at all. It is the same as getting something at the department store or supermarket. You have faith in the company that they will give you a good product, but it is the money you pay for the product, which enables you to take the goods away. The money is the merit, the price paid, without that you cannot expect to receive your goods.

The Blood of Jesus Christ is the merit, the price paid for our every answer to prayer. Faith takes you to God and enables you to accept the goods, but it is the Blood of Christ on the Cross as the merit, which purchases the goods from God and pays the price.

The Blood of Christ has the same relation in dealing with God as our money is when dealing with man. Faith also has the same relation, no ground of merit, simply reaches out and takes the goods from the hand of God. Faith is the hand which opens the door and allows Him who stands outside and knocks to come in.

Revelation 3:20, *"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."*

God has given His greatest gift, providing all that we could want or need, and this was all done when we were without strength, when we were sinners, we were enemies. But God's love is so great for us that He still wanted His best for us and gave His greatest, grandest, and most valuable gift in the universe, **THE BLOOD AND LIFE OF HIS OWN SON.**

Romans 5:7-8, *"For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."*

Could anyone do such a great favor or give such a wonderful gift, for anyone when they are a sinner and an enemy? God has proven that He has done this for us and if He gave His Son when we were enemies, how much more will He do for us now when we serve Him?

Romans 5:9-10, *"Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were*

*reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life."*

Just consider what God has done for us when we were enemies and without strength, when we had no faith, no goodness; and what He will do for us through the resurrection and life of Jesus Christ. We know that Jesus is living and sitting at the right hand of His Father, interceding for us.

Romans 8:34, *"It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us."*

There are many souls who have not had the work of God done in their hearts, who would think and were persuaded that they must try to be good and live a good life and if they did not try very hard, God wouldn't do anything for them. But we must remember, there is not a particle of foundation in that thought because all the goodness we will ever need must come from God. Just as much as Jesus died for us, to bring pardon and cleansing from sin, just the same, God will do all the work of grace; all the power to live an overcoming life is to come from God alone.

All other goodness and efforts are a hindrance instead of a help. We do not have to do anything to make us good, God Himself makes us good. It is all through that same great love that sent His Son to die for us.

Ephesians 2:4-6, *"But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus."* Therefore, it is by God's grace that ye are saved.

There are two things that the love of Christ has done for us: first, the Atoning Sacrifice for all our sins; secondly, that same love does all the work of righteousness that we need in our hearts; every part of it from God alone. So, what is there to remain away from God for?

God gives us a most tender and cordial invitation in Isaiah 1:18, *"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."*

We do not have to wait to get better; nor wait a moment to get faith; our faith must come from God as

well as our power to receive the blessings. We can draw nigh to God and not be a bit afraid of not receiving a loving welcome. There is no need to cover up anything, just open our hearts and tell Him how weak and helpless we really are. The whole foundation of our faith hinges on what Jesus did for us and what God's great love has provided, it is a gift.

Paul tells us in Ephesians 2:8, *"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:"* Also in 2 Corinthians 5:18, *"all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation."* So then, *"If God be for us, who can be against us."* (Romans 8:31)

The soul who allows the Holy Spirit to make these verses real to them will find a foundation for God to inspire them with courage and boldness in dealing with Him and in believing in Him. That will make them conquerors in everything that comes to them and enable them to win every battle, to be overcomers and conquerors in everything.

It is difficult for God to do anything for people who want to wait until they become good, because His work is especially for those who are unworthy not for those who seem to think they have something special about themselves apart from God.

Ever since man fell, God has been seeking to bring us back to Himself and His great love. In sending His Son into this world, He wanted to gain sinners, people who will never be righteous unless God makes Him so. They will only grow worse the longer they remain away from God, the longer the wait, the more desperate the case.

We can go right into the presence of God, right into the holy of holies: not because of anything that we may have done, nor any works or righteousness on our part; but because the veil was rent when Jesus died on the cross.

Hebrews 10:19, *"Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus."*

We can now go right into that new and ever-living way which never dies and is never closed. It makes no difference what our weakness, failure, unworthiness, or sins may be, we can go right into God's presence, plead for our pardoning and cleansing from sin and receive

the gift of righteousness, of life and the power to live an overcoming life. It is all free, bought and paid for by the Blood of God's Son, and we are invited in by God's great love.

Romans 8:32, *"He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?"*

An analogy: If someone were to ask you for a dollar and you gave it, you certainly would give someone two cents if they asked for it. That is the point that God is making here. He has given the greatest gift ever given, freely, when we were sinners, without strength, ungodly. So then, God will do anything less than that for us, and it is all given freely.

He was 'delivered up for us all', not just some special cases, not just good people or someone who has special ways about them, but, delivered up for all. There is no respect of persons with God. What He will do for one, He will do for all. There is no difference in His love. He loves all, alike.

Christ was given when we were sinners, without strength; He was God's greatest gift. We were dead in trespasses and sins, but Jesus gave us spiritual life, without any merit on our part. This includes everything in our daily life, peace in the home, health for our bodies, supply of every financial need with enough to give away; in short—victory everywhere, all these are of lesser value than the gift of His Son.

Romans 8:32, *"He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?"* Freely, without merit on our part, no self-righteousness, or any faith for us to work up; it is a free gift. All because of God's great love for us.

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[www.fcqchurch.org](http://www.fcqchurch.org)

PO Box 24283

Philadelphia, PA 19120

[info@fcqchurch.org](mailto:info@fcqchurch.org)

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