
The Truth Of God's Love

July 12, 2026

Romans 8:38-39; Philippians 3:4-10; 1 Timothy 1:12-15

The Event That Changes Everything

I. The power of love changes you

- A. When somebody loves you, when you love somebody
- B. The day you married
- C. The day children came into your life
- D. These are events of love that change you, love you didn't realize was there

II. So where does this love come from?

- A. It has to have a source
- B. Bible tells us God is love - 1 John 4:8
- C. Made in His image
- D. Jesus mentions God's love

III. The common theme (mistake) many have when discussing God's love

- A. I must earn God's love
- B. My actions prevent God's love
- C. Some ask how/why would God love me?
 - 1. I am worthless
 - 2. I am helpless
 - 3. I am unloveable
 - 4. I carry guilt/shame
 - 5. Impacts your life
- D. You learn to live with it
- E. The problem
 - 1. We can't fully love those around us

- 2. Until we fully embrace God's love for us
- 3. We can't give away what we have not received - John 13:34
- 4. You can't love at the level that is life changing until you have received His love and give away that love
- 5. Until you receive His love, there will always be a toxic, critical contempt that we place onto others

IV. The reason for the "pushback"

- A. Many have been led to believe that God's love & God's acceptance of you is based on something to do with you
- B. God loves us, not because of who we are, but because of who He is
- C. The cross of Jesus brings forth forgiveness & love

V. Apostle Paul (a case study)

- A. Paul lived in 3 extremes
 - 1. His impeccable obedience to the Law of God
 - a. But that didn't earn God's love
 - 2. His guilt & shame
 - a. A destroyer of Christians
 - b. He sought to destroy the faith
 - 3. A man who came face to face with the risen Messiah that brought grace & truth
- B. Paul (Saul) encountered Stephen
 - 1. Confidence in life
 - 2. Love for God
 - 3. Assurance in death
 - 4. Paul (Saul) was possibly envious
 - 5. Toxic people do not like those who know God's grace, live out God's truth, & enjoy God's love
- C. When Paul encountered Jesus

1. All religious acts, rules, & duties he considered "garbage" compared to knowing Jesus
2. Love changes you, not rules
3. Assurance, confidence, & grace

VI. How does God's love change you?

- A. Nothing you can do to earn it
Nothing you can do to stop it
- B. It is a free gift
- C. It must be received to have its full impact
- D. Received by believing Jesus
- E. Persuaded His love is true & that you can rest in that
- F. Persuaded by the evidence & the promise that is offered
- G. Receive it, trust it, & rest in it

VII. How Paul explained it

- A. I am convinced
- B. I know I was the best
 1. Didn't win me favor
- C. I was the worst
 1. Didn't erase God's love
- D. Jesus offers me this free gift of eternal life, if I will believe

VIII. Believing is not easy

- A. Admit your problems & shortcomings
- B. Recognize who Jesus is
- C. Recognize your need for Him
- D. Once it's yours nothing can separate you from the love found in Messiah
 1. Woman at the well wasn't respected
 2. Matthew was despised
 3. Thomas doubted
 4. Peter denied
 5. Paul persecuted

- E. When you receive God's love, it melts our resistance, empowers us, & causes us to love others as He has loved us
- F. That is what changes us

IX. The take away

- A. Life happens
 1. Experiences
 2. Relationships
- B. God's love never changes
- C. It conquers
 1. Life
 2. Death
 3. Fear
- D. Nothing can separate us from God's love
 1. Greater than our failures
 2. Greater than spiritual darkness
- E. Our security rests in Jesus
- F. No condemnation to those in Christ
 1. When we fail, God's love remains
 2. When we suffer, God's love remains
 3. When we doubt, God's love remains
 4. When we are persecuted, God's love remains
- G. God works it all together
 1. He intercedes
 2. He adopts
 3. He loves

We Don't Ignore Hardship

We Don't Ignore Tribulation

We Don't Ignore Persecution

We Focus On God's Grace

We Focus On God's Love

Found In Jesus

For God So Loved You