

# Romans 5:5-8

## The Love of God

### 1. 5:5 - The Holy Ghost

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> mention of *"the love of God"* which nothing separates us from – Rom 8:38-39
- b. 1<sup>st</sup> mention of the *"Holy Ghost... given to us"* – Eph 1:13, 14, 1 Cor 3:16, 12:13
- c. He shed the love of God abroad in our hearts - How? 1 Cor 2:10-13, 2 Cor 1:22
- d. Those who have this unashamed certain hope, have the Holy Ghost - Rom 8:9
- e. Holy Ghost is who set us apart acc. to the mystery - Rom 15:16, Eph 2:18, 3:5

### 2. 5:6 - Christ Died for Us

- a. *"we were"* - v6-8 is Paul going back and explaining what happened by the cross
- b. *"without strength"* ... to do good, to remove sin, to be godly, to save ourselves
  - i. The love of God, our hope, does not depend on our strength.
- c. *"in due time Christ died"* - at the time appointed – Gal 4:4, Titus 1:3, 1 Tim 2:4-6
  - i. He waited until all were proven guilty, even Israel – Rom 3:10
  - ii. This was not always revealed - Mat 15:24, 20:28
  - iii. The mystery reveals the hidden wisdom of God in the cross - 1 Cor 2:7-8
  - iv. What was God doing in Christ? Reconciling the world → 2 Cor 5:18-21
- d. *"died for"* - Speaks to an explanation, but also a substitutionary death.
  - i. 7x in the NT, all Pauline, Rom 5:6, 8, 1 Cor 15:3, 2 Cor 5:14, 15, 1 Thess 5:10
  - ii. 'gave himself' - 5x in the Bible, all Pauline about Christ death for us.
- e. *"the ungodly"* - Salvation only applies to the ungodly, w/o strength, sinners - Rom 4:5

### 3. 5:7 - The Love of Men

- a. *"scarcely"* which shows the love of man to be impotent - Matt 19:19-22, Gal 5:14
  - i. The 'ultimate sacrifice' by men for fellow men - John 15:12-14
- b. *"a righteous man"* – in our eyes, innocent, justified; does not deserve to die
- c. *"a good man"* – in our eyes, a worthy man, having done good, will do good.
- d. *"even dare to die"* - Man won't die for it, nor even put themselves at risk.
  - i. Men will scarcely die for what is right, nor even risk their life for what is good.
  - ii. What is the conclusion? Men love themselves: wrong, sin, unrighteous, and all.
  - iii. Men don't want wrath, because of love for themselves, not right and good.
  - iv. How many can you count on to die for you? Who would you die for?

### 4. 5:8 - The Love of God Commended

- a. A greater verse than John 3:16, where God sent a Son... here, the Son dies for us.
  - i. Neither verse is teaching, "God loves you"
- b. *"commendeth"* – not merely 'demonstrates', but bring attention to for high regard
  - i. This is not 'God loves you', but God's love is praiseworthy - Eph 1:6, 12, 14
  - ii. Only a selfish sinner thinks that someone sacrificing for you makes you the hero
- c. *"his love toward us"* – atonement for all the world; (you cannot insert your name here)
  - i. Making it personal makes it about how wonderful you are, and not God's love.
  - ii. The reason for his death was to commend his love, not to commend our value.

- d. *"toward us"* in that he loved Christ, not the sinful – Eph 1:6, 4:32, Mat 3:17, John 5:20
  - i. It was never true that God hates the sin and loves the sinner.
  - ii. God hates sin and sinners - Rom 1:18, Psa 5:5-6, 10:3, 11:5; Amos 5:15, Mal 1:3
  - iii. Atonement for sin was made by the cross, allowing a disp. of grace.
- e. *"while we were yet sinners"* – not even the good men of 5:7, but lost and dead in sin
  - i. Paul is the pattern here; while sinning Christ appeared – Titus 3:3-5
  - ii. Christ did not appear because of Paul, but due to his love and grace.
  - iii. This prevents pious arrogance in evangelism and ministry.
  - iv. This destroys 'turning from sins' before salvation, making the cross of no effect
- f. *"Christ died for us"* – only Christ could; no other man could be accepted - 1 Tim 2:5
  - i. The saved understand the ultimate picture of love to be the cross of Christ.