

# “JESUS LOVES ME, THIS I KNOW”

John 13:34-35

## INTRODUCTION:

- A. We often talk about the love of God and all He did for us.
- B. We must never forget that Jesus had a great deal of love in order to die on the Cross.
- C. We sing “Jesus Loves Me, This I Know.”
- D. Tonight I want us to focus on various ways that Jesus expresses His love toward us:

## I. JESUS’ BIRTH WAS AN EXPRESSION OF LOVE.

- A. “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” **John 3:16.**
- B. “In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him...” **1 John 4:9-11.**
- C. Jesus was born ANYWAY:
  - 1. There was no room in the inn, but Jesus was born anyway.
  - 2. Mankind did not deserve His coming, but Jesus was born anyway.
  - 3. Joseph did not understand what was going on, but Jesus was born anyway.
  - 4. Herod would immediately try to kill Him, but Jesus was born anyway.
  - 5. Mankind did not deserve it, but Jesus was born anyway.
- D. *What if Jesus had never been born?* Thanks to the love of God, He **was** born into this world.

## II. JESUS’ LIFE WAS AN EXPRESSION OF LOVE.

- A. At least a dozen times in the NT, the Bible tells us that Jesus had compassion on others: as sheep without a shepherd, because they didn’t have anything to eat, before he healed others, etc.
- B. After Lazarus died, Jesus wept, and the Jews said, “*See how He loved him!*” **John 11:35-36.**
- C. In dealing with the Rich Young Ruler, the Bible says: Then Jesus, looking at him, *loved him*, and said to him, “One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me.” **Mark 10:21.**
- D. “*Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.*” **John 11:5**
- E. When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and *the disciple whom He loved* standing by, He said to His mother, “Woman, behold your son!” **John 19:26.**
- F. When Jesus wanted to give an example of supreme love for others, he used Himself as an example: A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; *as I have loved you*, that you also love one another. 35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” **John 13:34-35.**

### III. JESUS' MISSION WAS AN EXPRESSION OF LOVE:

- A. "For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost." **Luke 19:10.**
- B. He came to build the Church, **Matthew 16:18.**
- C. His mission makes salvation possible:
  - 1. "Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins." **John 8:24.**
  - 2. "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."  
**Mark 16:15-16.**
- D. "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich."  
**2 Corinthians 8:9.**

### IV. JESUS' SUFFERING WAS AN EXPRESSION OF LOVE.

- A. The suffering He endured: harsh speaking, spitting, being slapped, beaten, crown of thorns on His head, being nailed to the cross, spear thrust into His side.
- B. REMEMBER: It was something that he could have STOPPED. After Peter cut off the ear of Malchus, Jesus told him: "Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than *twelve legions* of angels?" (Interestingly: not *Ten Thousand Angels*). [**Matthew 26:53**].
- C. "Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, *who for the joy that was set before Him* endured the cross," **Hebrews 12:1-2.**

### V. JESUS' DEATH WAS AN EXPRESSION OF LOVE.

- A. Normally, death would be associated more with hate than with love.
  - 1. Murder would fall into that category.
  - 2. Some people kill for no particular reason, just because they are evil.
- B. On the other hand, death could come as a result of love:
  - 1. A mother or father might give their lives for their children.
  - 2. A soldier might go to war and die for love of country
- C. Love was the reason for Jesus' death on the cross:
  - 1. "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends."  
**John 15:13.**
  - 2. "And walk in love, *as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us*, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma." **Ephesians 5:2.**
- D. "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." **Romans 5:6-8.**
- E. "By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren." **1 John 3:16.**

- F. “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh *I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. Galatians 2:20.*

## VI. JESUS’ RESURRECTION WAS AN EXPRESSION OF LOVE.

- A. ILLUSTRATION: Ten days before easter 2003, I was talking to Lora Abernathy, a nurse at Crestwood Medical Center in Huntsville, AL. She showed me her “easter” smock -- with little chicks on it. She said that she had to work easter Sunday, and she was going to wear a smock with hearts on it. She said, “I know someone will tell me that is supposed to be worn on Valentines Day, not easter. Then I’ll say, ‘Think about it..’”
1. I think she made a very good point. On a day when many people are concentrating on the Lord’s resurrection, what better topic is there to discuss than GOD’S LOVE?
  2. If there is anything that shows the love of God, it is the resurrection and the events leading up to it.
- B. Jesus’ resurrection was the crowning act of all the facets of our redemption. “and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, *the firstborn from the dead*, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, ***Revelation 1:5.***
- C. Because of His love, we can die to sin and be resurrected, **Romans 6:3-4.** “Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that *just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*”
- D. Because of His resurrection, we have hope in the FINAL resurrection, **1 Thess 4:13-18.**

## CONCLUSION:

- A. “Why Did my Savior come to Earth?” *Because He loved me so.*
- B. Jesus loves you so much He died on the cross, “Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.” **John 15:13.**
- C. Do you love Jesus enough to obey Him? “If you love Me, keep My commandments.” **John 14:15.**
- D. Will you obey the Lord **TONIGHT?**

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