

“The Love Of God”

Adapted by: Michael R. Hughes

Text: I John 5:3; Philippians 2:9-11;
Matthew 24:12

Theme: To encourage saints in the love of God.

Introduction:

1. Many sermons; usually one-sided; basis of real love neglected.
2. No salvation without love; increased by knowledge Philippians 2:9.
3. Purpose: Learn what it is, determine if we do. Need to be concerned about conditions today, in nation and the church and home.

Discussion:

- I. Why love God?
 - A. Reciprocal. I John 4:19. In God's image; material things.
 - B. Redemption price. Romans 3:8,9. Awfulness of sin measured.
- II. How much should we love God?
 - A. Above worldly pleasures. James 4:4; I John 2:15-17.
 - B. Above material affairs Matthew 6:19-33; Philippians 3:8,13,14.
 - C. Above human ties Matthew 10:37; Mark 10:29,30.
 - D. More than life Mark 8:34-38.
- III. What is it to love God?
 - A. To keep (continuous action) his commandments. I John 3:3; 1:7; I Peter 1:22.
 - B. What does God need of us? Acts 7:24-26.

- C. Faith expressed in obedience. cf. Hebrews 11:1-12:28. Faith only?
- D. Love also. John 4:15,21,23,24. Matthew 10:40. What about love only? I John 3:18.
- E. Cf. I John 3:3 and 2:3,4. Substitute “love” for “know” Revelation 1:8.
- F. Emotionalism minimized. Luke 1:27,28; Matthew 2:47-50.

IV. How Can we properly demonstrate love for God? (Affection)

- A. By loving the truth cf. II Thessalonians 2:10.
 - 1. Search it I Timothy 2:15; Acts 7:11; Accept.
 - 2. Defend it Jude 3; Philippians 1:27.
 - 3. In Preaching- II Timothy 4:1-4; Acts 20:26,27; Titus 3.
 - 4. No perversion allowed Galatians 3:6-10; Ephesians 3:11; “Reprove.”
- B. By loving the church
 - 1. It is exalted Isaiah 2:2,3; Ephesians 1:20-23.
 - 2. Jesus loved it Ephesians 3:25-27.
 - 3. In humble service. Attendance, every phase of work, etc.
 - 4. No reproach in questionable practices. Never bring reproach.
- C. By good works
 - 1. Purity in life Titus 2:11-15; II Corinthians 6:16-7:1.
 - 2. Benevolence. Matthew 25:34-46. Galatians 6:10.
- D. By loving each other test of citizenship.
 - 1. Otherwise can't love God- I John 3:11,14,15; 4:20.
 - 2. Pure heart, fervently, glowing, ardent I Peter 1:22b.
 - 3. “Knit together in love.” Colossians 2:2; II Corinthians 1:10; 12:25.
- E. By loving the lost. God does I John 3:16.
 - 1. Paul's love for countrymen Romans 9:1-3; 10:1-2
 - 2. Must seek to save them. Proverbs 1:30b; James 5:19,20.

Conclusion:

1. All love embraced in I John 3:3.
2. Love demonstrated in obedience. John 14:21.
3. Salvation not a matter of feelings only, but of knowledge, obedience, action, service.

Invitation:

Bibliography:

This is a sermon by Roy J. Hearn