



Pastor's Comments

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HE FIRST LOVED US

A Christian was seriously ill and became troubled about **the little love he felt** in his heart for God. He mentioned this to a friend and his friend answered, "When I go home from here, I expect to take my baby on my knee, look into her sweet eyes, listen to her charming prattle, and tired as I am, her presence will rest me; for I **love that child** with unutterable tenderness. **But she loves me little.** If my heart were breaking it would not disturb her sleep. If my body were racked with pain, it would not interrupt her play. If I were dead, she would forget me in a few days. Besides this, she had never brought me a penny, but was a constant expense to me. I am not rich, but there is not money enough in the world to buy my baby. How is it? **Does she love me, or do I love her? Do I withhold my love until I know she loves me?** Am I waiting for her to do something worthy of my love before extending it?" This practical illustration of the love of God for His children caused the tears to roll down the sick man's face. "Oh, I see," he exclaimed, "it is **not my love to God but God's love for me**, that I should be thinking of. And I do love Him now as I never loved Him before." --Gospel Herald

The Bible teaches that God loves us and proved it by sending His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for our sins. **"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us"** (Romans 5:8), **"In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world"** (1 John 4:9), **"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins"** (1 John 4:10).

Will you **respond to God's love** now asking Him to forgive you of your sins? Then you can say, "We love him, because **he first loved us**" (1 John 4:19).

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