

The Evidence of Love in the Actions of Jesus Christ

Introduction

- A. Love is much more than the letters of L O V E written on a page. Love is primarily an action. When we truly love someone we express it in our actions.
- B. God loves us as individuals. He expressed His love by giving His Son to be our Savior (John 3:16). In Jesus Christ and His life we see the evidence of love itself. The Bible is filled with verses which indicate the gifts of His love.

I. In Love Jesus Christ Gave His Life For Us, John 10:11.

I am the good Shepherd, the good Shepherd giveth His life for the sheep.

Observation: There is hardly a more clear evidence of love than this. When He did not have to and when we were His enemies - He gave His life for us. This statement means much more than that He lived for us. It means that He gave up His life for us when He suffered our death on Calvary.

II. In Love Jesus Christ Gave Himself For Us, Galatians 2:20.

I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me, and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, Who loved me, and gave Himself for me.

Observation: This verse goes beyond the one we have just considered. It is possible to give your life for someone without being totally taken up in the attempt to rescue that person. This verse indicates that Jesus Christ, in His love for us, was totally concerned for us and gave Himself in every way possible for our rescue. This indicates the seriousness of our condition.

III. In Love Jesus Christ Gave Himself As A Ransom For Us, I Timothy 2:5,6.

For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, Who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

Observation: Now we are told what it meant for Jesus Christ to give His life and Himself for us - it was as a ransom. As sinners against God we are under condemnation. God could not forgive us without the debt, which we could not pay, being paid. Jesus Christ suffered our judgment, i.e., He paid our ransom and so all who believe on Him are forgiven.

IV. In Love Jesus Christ Gave Himself For Us to Deliver us, Galatians 1:4.

Who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father.

Observation: This verse teaches us one facet of the purpose Jesus Christ had in giving Himself for us. Our pattern of selfish living is what the Bible calls the "world". If we live like the worldly pattern, as believers, we will bring spiritual bankruptcy into our lives. Jesus Christ came to set us free from the world.

V. In Love Jesus Christ Has Given Us Eternal Life, John 10:27,28.

My sheep hear My voice and I know them and they follow Me. And I give unto them eternal life and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand.

Observation: The term "eternal life" means more than never dying. Even the non-Christian will never die. All mankind will live somewhere forever. The term indicates a relationship of life with Jesus Christ. He took our death and suffered under our alienation from God. The value of this was imputed to us when, we received Him as Savior and Lord. The Christian is in a right relationship with God.

VI. In Love Jesus Christ Has Given Us Peace, John 14:27.

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you, not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Observation: Peace is one of the results of being in a right relationship with God. The believer is at peace with God in that there is no barrier between God and ourselves. We have been reconciled in the death of Jesus Christ. But peace is also an experience of spiritual well-being whereby we sense intellectually and emotionally what it means to be right with God*

VII. In Love Jesus Christ Has Given Us Gifts, Ephesians 4:7,8.

But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore He saith, When He ascended up on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men*

Observation: Every believer has received at least one gift from Jesus Christ. The term "gift" may be better understood as "ability". Every believer is the recipient of such an ability or enablement so he may glorify God in his daily life.

VIII. In Love Jesus Christ Has Given Us His Word, John 17:8.

For I have given unto them the words which Thou gavest Me and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from Thee, and they have believed that Thou didst send Me.

Observation: What a treasure we have in the inspired Word of God* This is one of the important provisions Jesus Christ has made for His people. God in His love has spoken to us. We have the privilege of owning a copy of the Scripture. He has given us His Word so that we may mix it with faith and put it into practice in daily life.

IX. In Love Jesus Christ Has Given Us A Commandment, John 13:34,35.

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another, as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

Observation: All of God's commandments are expressions of His love. This one is most important in that He knew we would never make a success in life without loving people and without being loved in return. We are reminded in these verses that love will prove to the non-Christian we are genuine.

Conclusion: God wants us to know what has been given to us (I Cor. 2:12)