

“God’s Amazing Love” Romans 5:6-11

Romans 5:6–11 (NKJV)

⁶ For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. ¹⁰ For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. ¹¹ And not only *that*, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

Love, even human love is often considered a wonderful, amazing thing, God’s love is MORE!

How?

I. Note the when, the timing of God’s love –

**⁶ For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died
Romans 5:6**

- 1. When we were helpless to save ourselves, without moral or spiritual strength –*

This goes against the idea of “God helps those who help themselves” a quote from Benjamin Franklin or Aesop’s Fables, but NOT from the Bible! The concept is not taught in the Bible, rather the opposite is taught, God helps those who cannot help themselves -

²³ Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard its spots? Then may you also do good who are accustomed to do evil. Jeremiah 13:23 (NKJV)

*The blessed person, according to Jesus, **Matthew 5:3** is poor in Spirit, meaning they understand they are spiritually and morally bankrupt, helpless to save themselves. “When” we realize this, we cry out to God!*

2. *In due time, meaning at the right time, a perfect time –*

3 To everything *there is* a season, A time for every purpose under heaven: Ecclesiastes 3:1

(NKJV)

A. *Christ's life, death and resurrection mark the "fulness of time" –*

4 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. Galatians 4:4–5 (NKJV)

B. *When corruption ruled, when prophesy would be fulfilled, not during the empire of gold, but that of iron and clay –*

⁴⁰ And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, *that kingdom* will break in pieces and crush all the others. ⁴¹ Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay. ⁴² And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile. ⁴³ As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay. ⁴⁴ And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. ⁴⁵ Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure." Daniel 2:40–45 (NKJV)

C. *In the nick of time – idiom, referring to that last moment where a moment more and calamity cannot be avoided, the Israelites trapped against the Red Sea while Egyptian chariots are charging!*

D. *Think of how fast acting sin is, Adam's first son Cain, murdered his second son Abel, God's love saves us, before we destroy ourselves.*

“It is not a love constrained by commendable qualities in them, not even by the qualities which they would one day exhibit by the power of God’s grace. It is an antecedent love because it is the love presupposed in the death of Christ for them while they were still in misery and sin.”

John Murray

19 We love Him because He first loved us. 1 John 4:19 (NKJV)

II. Note the who, the objects of God’s love –
“for the ungodly.” Romans 5: 6 “Sinners” Romans 5: 8 “enemies”
Romans 5:10

1. *The ungodly – the people who are not all about and into God! What is ungodly? God to a grocery store magazine rack, what magazines do you find?*

People, GQ, Cosmopolitan, Allure, Vogue, Elle, Glamour, Forbes, Popular Science, Popular Mechanics, Popular Photography, Sporting News, Sports Illustrated, Men’s Health, Women’s Health, Time, Life, House & Garden, Playboy, Highlights, Mad, Country Living, Top Gear, National Geographic, Travel & Leisure, Psychology Today...

What you won’t find is Theology Today, Seeking God, Bible Believers, ... If we were “godly” the magazine racks would be filled with magazines about God, the Bible and how to grow in the faith ... Have you ever seen a “Missionary Today” magazine at your grocery store?

2. *Sinners –*

A sinner is someone who breaks God’s law.

4 Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness. 1 John 3:4 (NKJV)

3. *Enemies –*

6 Therefore, when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, “Crucify Him, crucify Him!” Pilate said to them, “You take Him and crucify Him, for I find no fault in Him.” John 19:6 (NKJV)

He died for us when we were “enemies” – Fire Ants, would you die for a fire ant?

III. Note the wow, the excellence of God's love –

For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5: 7-8 (NKJV)

1. *Occasionally, someone will die for family, friends or country. Christ died for those, "us" who killed Him with our sins!*

2. *We distorted His image –*

¹⁴ **Just as many were astonished at you, So His visage (face) was marred more than any man,**

And His form more than the sons of men; Isaiah 52:14 (NKJV)

We were created in God's image, but our sins distort this. The beating of Christ, shows HATE!

Yet, He saves and restores us -

²⁰ **But you have not so learned Christ, ²¹ if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: ²² that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, ²³ and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, ²⁴ and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. Ephesians 4:20–24 (NKJV)**

IV. Note the what-is-more of God's love –

⁹ Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. ¹⁰ For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. Romans 5:9-10 (NKJV)

1. *When enemies we were saved by His death, the hard part, Isaiah 53:1*

2. *As reconciled / friends we shall be saved by His LIFE –*

A. *This refers to His continuing intercession -*

²² **by so much more Jesus has become a surety of a better covenant.**

²³ **Also there were many priests, because they were prevented by death from continuing. ²⁴ But He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. ²⁵ Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.**

²⁶ **For such a High Priest was fitting for us, *who is* holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; ²⁷ who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the people's, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself. ²⁸ For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, *appoints* the Son who has been perfected forever. Hebrews 7:22–28 (NKJV)**

B. *This refers to the sanctifying work of His Holy Spirit / with His Word, the entire process that leads to GLORY –*

¹⁷ **Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.** John 17:17 (NKJV)

¹³ **But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, ¹⁴ to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Thessalonians 2:13–14 (NKJV)**

V. *Note the what-is-more again of God's love, not just the process, but the present, the NOW! -*

¹¹ **And not only *that*, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation. Romans 5: 11 (NKJV)**

1. *We not only will be saved, but rejoice ...*

2. *Now, because we are already "reconciled" we have now received the reconciliation.*

3. *We are children of God -*

⁹ In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Matthew 6:9 (NKJV)

3 Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. ² Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. ³ And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. 1 John 3:1–3 (NKJV)

4. *We are Christ's future bride –*

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, ²⁶ that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷ that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. *Ephesians 5:25-27*

5. *God is on our side -*

**³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us?
Romans 8:31 (NKJV)**

Paul is saying we rejoice in God NOW! Because even though we still face trial in this world, even sin in OURSELVES – we have an Advocate, a Friend, a Helper in God / Christ / The Holy Spirit ...

**¹³ Through God we will do valiantly, For *it is* He *who* shall tread down our enemies. Psalm 108:13
(NKJV)**

2 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 1 John 2:1 (NKJV)

¹³ Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. ¹⁴ You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. ¹⁵ No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you. John 15:13-15 (NKJV)

What a Friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!

Our rejoicing is not just in a saving process, which is a wonderful one, but also in a saving Person, Jesus Christ, even Three saving Persons: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit –

³ And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God. Revelation 21:3 (NKJV)