

**Scripture:** Ten Commandments & John 21

**Singing:** 238:1-3 – 435:9 – 34:1-3, 9 – 415:2, 5 – 40:5-6

### LOVE TO JESUS

I. The importance of this love II. The evidence of this love

III. The truth about this love

#### I. THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS LOVE

A. Love is the most important ingredient in a relationship with God/others

1. 1 Cor. 13:1-3; 13; Gal. 5:22; Eph. 6:24

a. Jesus did emphasize importance of faith: John 6:35; 53; 7:38

b. yet He called special attention to love: John 21:15-17

2. Meaning of the New Testament 'love' (agapao)

a. describes God's love toward His Son (John 17:26) – world (John 3:16)

– His believing people (John 14:21)

b. Biblical love is

- know by its actions: 1 John 4:9,10

- not drawn out by excellency of object: Rom. 5:8

- not necessarily an action propelled by feelings: Matt 5:44

- seeks welfare of others: Rom. 15:2; 1 Cor. 13:8-10; Ga. 6:10

c. Love has feelings, but it is far more than feelings (T. Boston)

- possible to have stronger feelings for something less loved

d. Love to God becomes clear by the choices we make

e. Love to God can be rational rather than sentimental

B. God's probing question to us: *Do you love Me and My Son Jesus Christ?*

## II. THE EVIDENCE OF THIS LOVE

- A. True love to God can be consciously known to us
- B. What are some of the *genuine marks that I love the Lord Jesus*?
1. Grieving about sin (Ps. 119:136)
  2. Anger about sin (2 Cor. 7:11; Acts 17:16)
  3. Hunger for fellowship (Ps. 42; 63:1-3; Phil. 3:10)
  4. Joy in God and hearing His Word (Ps. 84:10; Ps. 27:4)

## III. THE TRUTH ABOUT THIS LOVE

- A. Jesus taught that the 'tree is known by its fruits'
1. Love to Jesus is a *fruit* – what is the *tree*? (1 John 4:19)

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### TRUTHS AND THOUGHTS ABOUT LOVE

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear:  
because fear hath torment.  
He that feareth is not made perfect in love  
(1 John 4:18)

Of all the things that will surprise us in the resurrection morning,  
this, I believe, will surprise us most:  
That we did not love Christ more before we died. (J. C. Ryle)

The greatest and best thing that can be said of you is that you loved the Lord.

Our love to God is not worth speaking of  
but His to us can never be spoken of enough. (M. Henry)