

**“Proof Of Love”**  
**Romans 5:6-8**

**Introduction:**

1. We've Been Singing This Morning:
  - Simple Songs:
    - That Deal With:
      - One Of The Most Profound Truths:
        - That We Find In The Bible!
    - The Truth That:
      - “Jesus Loves Even Me!”
        - And That - Jesus Loves Even:
          - You!
2. As We Continue Our Series:
  - Through The Book Of Romans - On Sunday Mornings:
    - Please Turn With Me To:
      - Romans 5 - Where - In The Last Verse We Visited - Verse 5:
        - We Were Told That For All Believers In Christ:
          - “The Love Of God Is Shed Abroad – Or – Is Being Continuously Poured Out – Into Our Hearts By The Holy Spirit!”
3. But - How Is This Accomplished?
  - Especially When There Are Times In Your Life:
    - When You Suffer & When You Struggle:
      - And You May Even Start To Wonder:
        - If Jesus **Does** Love Even Me!
  - Well - In The Verses We Come To Next:
    - In 5:6-8 - We Find The Proof Of God's Love:
      - Especially In A Verse That You Probably Know Quite Well:
        - 5:8 - “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us!”
  - The Proof Of God's Love For You:
    - Is The Death Of Christ:
      - For You!
        - Even When You Were:
          - The Most Unlovely - And:
            - The Most Unloveable!
    - Even As A Sinner:
      - “Christ Died For You!”
        - And That Is Why - No Matter What You Are Going Through:
          - God's Love For You Shines Out All The More:
            - Against The Back-Drop Of Your Unloveliness!
4. And So - In These Three Verses:
  - We Find Four Descriptions:
    - Of Our Unloveliness:
      - Which Serve To Highlight:
        - The Love Of God:
          - To Us!
  - 5:6-8 - “For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. / For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. / But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us!”

\* The First Description We Find Is That We Have:

1. ***A Condition That Is Weak!***
  - Even As We Are Told Again In:
    - 5:6a - “For When We Were Yet Without Strength!”
      - The Word Here Translated “Without Strength” Can Also Be Translated:
        - Weak & Sick, Feeble & Infirm!
  - It Is Often Used In The Bible To Describe Someone Who Is:

- Physically Weak - But It Can Also Be Used To Describe:
  - All Weakness And Feebleness, Which Is The Result Of The Fall!
- **IE:** And The Truth Is - We Are All Very, Very Weak! Just Look At What A Little Virus, About 100 Nano-Meters In Size, Which Is 1/1000th The Width Of A Human Hair - And Look At What Has It Done To This World! To Us! Our Condition Is Very, Very Weak! And:
  - Our Weakness Is Extensive!
    - Not Only Are We Weak Physically:
      - We Are Weak Morally & Spiritually As Well!
        - The Bible Reveals That:
          - Our Physical Weakness Even Stems From Our Spiritual Weakness!
    - In Isaiah 1:4-6 - Our Spiritual Infirmities:
      - Are Put In Physical Terms:
        - “Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward. / Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. / From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment!”
    - But - Lest We Think That:
      - Our Weakness Means:
        - That There May Still Be Some Strength Or Ability:
          - Left In Us:
  - Our Weakness Is [Further] Exposed:
    - In The Bible - As Death Itself!
      - In Ephesians 2:1 - Paul Reminds Believers That:
        - We “Were Dead In Trespasses And Sins!”
          - Can You Be Any Weaker:
            - Than Dead?
  - Our Condition - Apart From Christ - Is Weak!
    - Very Weak!
      - We Were All:
        - Living In A Spiritual Hospice:
          - Where We Were Spiritually, Already Dead!
            - We Were Just Waiting For Our Bodies To Catch Up!
  - And Yet - Even In This Condition:
    - God Loved You!
      - How Do You Know? How Can You Tell?
        - The Proof Of God’s Love:
          - Is The Death Of His Son:
            - For You!

\* Another Description We Find In These Verses - Is That We Had:

**1. A Character That Is Warped!**

- As We Read In:
  - At The End Of 5:6b - Where - Not Only Were We:
    - “Without Strength’ - We Were Also:
      - “Ungodly!”
        - “In Due Time, Christ Died For The Ungodly!”
  - **IE:** If You’ve Ever Worked With Wood - Whether For Building Or Even For Crafts - You Know That Wood Has A Tendency To Warp! And Warping Is Not Just Annoying, It Can Ruin Whatever It Is You Are Trying To Create With That Wood!
    - To Warp Means Something Is Not What It Is Supposed To Be!
      - A Board Is Supposed To Be Straight! But When There’s A Twist Or A Turn In It - It Is Warped!
  - And - So It Is With Us!
    - God Created Us - Even As He Created Our First Parents, Adam & Eve, To Have A Relationship

- With Him!
  - And That Relationship Was To Be One Of Love And Reverence And Glory!
    - But - What Happened! Instead Of Reverence, There Was Rebellion!
      - First - In The Garden Of Eden - And Then - In All Of Our Hearts!
- And Ever Since Then:
  - Our Hearts Have Been Warped!
    - Twisted & Crooked & Bent:
      - Away From Purpose Of God In Creating Us!
- So - Even Though:
  - We Were Weak - Yet:
    - We Still Thought About God:
      - And Talked About God:
        - And Treated God:
          - As Nothing!
- And Yet - Even With This Character:
  - What Did Jesus Christ Do For You?
    - 5:6b - "Christ Died For The Ungodly!"
      - Christ Died For You!
        - And This Is The Proof:
          - Of God's Love For You!
- So - Even Though You And I:
  - Were Weakened:
    - By Death - And Even:
  - Were Worthy:
    - Of Death - Yet:
  - When The Time Came:
    - Jesus Christ Died For You!
- Jesus Died:
  - At The Appointed Time!
    - Even As We Are Told In:
      - Galatians 4:4-5 - " But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, / To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons!"
    - God Had An Plan In Place:
      - To Redeem You From Your Weak Condition & Your Warped Character:
        - Even Before The Foundation Of This World! An Eternal Plan!
  - And - According To That Plan:
    - And - At Just The Right Time:
      - He Died For You! Also:
- Jesus Died:
  - At The Appropriate Time!
    - At The Season:
      - Of Our Most Extreme Need And Weakness!
        - When We Were At Our Lowest Point!
    - When Others Would:
      - Crush & Conquer Their Enemies:
        - When They Are Down!
  - What Did Jesus Do?
    - He *Came* Down:
      - That He Might Raise You Up:
        - So That You Could "Sit Together In Heavenly Places In Christ Jesus!" (Ephesians 2:6)
- Never Forget That:
  - The Death Of God's Son – For You:
    - Is The Proof Of God's Love:
      - For You!

\* But - We Find Another Description In 5:7 - And That Is - We Had:

3.

***A Consideration That Is Wanting!***

- 5:7 - "For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die!"
  - When Paul Talks About Someone Dying For Another:
    - He Is Referring To:
      - A Sacrificial Act:
        - That Is Based On:
          - A Selfless Love!
  - And - Here He Says:
    - That Such Sacrificial Love:
      - Is Rare!
        - After All - Life Is A Very Precious Thing!
          - And It Is The Most Natural Thing For A Person:
            - To Want To Survive & To Thrive!
  - And That Is Why:
- Sacrificial Love Is A Scarce Thing:
  - Even When It Is For:
    - A "Righteous Man!"
      - Now - Here - Paul Seems To Be Looking At People The Way The Jews Commonly Did!
        - A "Righteous" / "Just" Man Was One Who Was ***Strictly*** Just!
  - It Was Someone Who:
    - Gave To Every One His Due:
      - No More & No Less!
        - Their Motto Might Have Been:
          - "What's Yours Is Yours, But What's Mine Is Mine!"
  - So - A Just Man:
    - Would Likely Be:
      - A Respected Man & An Honored Man:
        - But Even So - It Would Be A Very Rare Thing:
          - For You To Lay Down  
Your Life For That Respectable Man!
            - But Also:
- Sacrificial Love Is A Seldom Thing:
  - Even When It Is for:
    - A "Good Man!"
      - A "Good Man" Was Someone Who Was Compassionate And Known For His / Her Benevolence!
  - It Was Someone Who:
    - Gave To Every One ***More***:
      - Than They Were Due!
        - Their Motto Would Have Been:
          - "What's Mine Is Yours!"
  - So - A Good Man:
    - Would Have Been:
      - A Beloved Man!
        - But Even Still - It Would Be A Very Rare Thing:
          - For You To Lay Down Your Life For That Good Man!
- Now - We Know - That There Are Times:
  - When People Have & Do:
    - Sacrifice Their Lives For Others!
      - Jesus Recognizes This And Commends This In John 15:13 - When He Says - "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends!"
  - But - This Is Still:
    - A Very Unusual & A Very Rare Thing:
      - To Find In This World!
        - Even For Righteous Men & Good Men!
  - But - What About You & What About Me?
    - According To What We've Already Seen In The Book Of Romans:
      - Before God - We Are Neither:

- Righteous Nor Just!
- Romans 3:10-12 Reminds Us:
  - “As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: / There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. / They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one!”
- So - If It's A Scarce Thing:
  - For Righteous Men:
    - And - If It's A Seldom Thing:
      - For Good Men:
        - Then It Must Be An Impossible Thing:
          - For People Like You And Me!
- When We Are Weighed In The Balance:
  - Apart From Christ:
    - We Are Found Desperately Wanting!
      - But - Once Again - This Is Where God's Love Come In, Doesn't It?
- Because - Even With This Consideration:
  - By God Himself:
    - He Still Loved You!
      - How Do You Know? How Can You Tell?
  - 5:8 - “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us!”
    - We Weren't Even His Friends:
      - As Of Yet!
        - We Were Sinners! We Were Even His Enemies, As We Will See In 5:10!

- And That Leads Us To Our Fourth Description - Which Is:

**4. *A Conduct That Is Wicked!***

- This Is What Sinners Are!
  - This Is What Sinners Do!
    - We Were Wicked!
      - Not Just As A Condition:
        - But In Our Conduct!
      - Not Just In Who We Are:
        - But In What We Do!
      - Not Just In Our Relationship With God:
        - Or Lack Thereof - But:
          - In Our Rebellion Against God! An Active Rebellion!

**Conclusion:**

1. But - In Spite Of *All* This:
  - 5:8 - “But God Commendeth His Love Toward Us!”
    - The Word Translated “Commendeth” Here:
      - Has Also Been Translated:
        - To Show Or To Demonstrate!
          - Another Way Of Looking At It Is To Use The Word:
            - “Exhibit!”
    - “God Exhibits His Love Toward Us!”
      - **IE:** If You've Ever Been To A County Or A State Fair, You Know What An “Exhibit” Is! And The Best Exhibits Are More Than Just Displays – They Are Demonstrations! For Over 150 Years, “World's Fairs Or Expos” Have Been Held - Where Countries Showcase Some Of Their Greatest Attributes & Achievements!
2. Well - The Greatest Exhibition:
  - Of All Time & In & To:
    - All The World:
      - Is The Love Of God:
        - Toward Us!
    - And - How Did God:
      - And - How Does God:

- Exhibit His Love?

- Once Again - 5:8 - "In That, While We Were Yet Sinners, Christ Died For Us!"

- Even Though:

- We Were:

- Weak:

- In Our Condition!

- Even Though:

- We Were:

- Warped:

- In Our Character!

- Even Though:

- We Were:

- Wanting:

- In Our Consideration! And:

- Even Though:

- We Were:

- Wicked:

- In Our Conduct!

- Yet – Still:

- "Christ Died For Us!"

3. This Is The Exhibition Of God's Love!

- And His Love Is An Infinite Love!

- It Is Infinite:

- In Its Duration:

- For You!

- Jeremiah 31:3 - "The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee!"

- His Love Is Infinite:

- In Its Depth:

- For You!

- Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, / Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord!"

- But - Also - God's Love Is Infinite:

- In Its Demonstration:

- To You!

4. And That Is Why:

- Whenever You Face:

- Struggles & Suffering:

- In Your Life - You Can Receive:

- A Fresh Outpouring:

- Of God's Love For You!

- Not By Looking At:

- The Circumstances:

- Of Your Life:

- But By Looking, Time & Again, At:

- The Cross Of Jesus Christ!

- Even As We Are Told In:

- 1 John 4:10 - "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins!"

- Oh – "How Deep The Father's Love For Us, How Vast Beyond All Measure! That He Should Give His Only Son, To Make A Wretch His Treasure!"

5. Do You Know This Love Today?

- Have You Responded To This Love?

- **IE:** At Any Other Exhibit You Might Visit - A Salesman May Demonstrate His Product Or Service - To Those Who Are Able & Willing To Buy!

- But - Not God! God Exhibits His Love To Those Who Are Not Only **Unable** To Respond, But To Those Who Are **Unwilling** To Respond As Well!
- And What Does The Lord Say?
  - To Unlovely, Ungodly, Ungrateful:
    - Sinners Like Us?
      - Isaiah 55:1 - "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price!"
- 6. Won't You Respond To God's Love Today?
  - For The First Time:
    - Respond By Faith!
      - Believe On The Lord Jesus Christ:
        - "Who was delivered for [your] offences, and was raised again for [your] justification!" (4:25)
  - But Then - For The Rest Of Time & Eternity:
    - Respond By Love!
      - 1 John 4:19 - "We Love Him, Because He First Loved Us!"
      - And - The Proof Of God's Love:
        - Will Ever Remain:
          - The Death Of His Son:
            - For You!

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