

## ***Christ our Love***

*"In this the love of God was made manifest among us that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him" (1 John 4:9).*

God is love, and He revealed the fullest revelation of that love through the giving of His Son, Jesus. In our culture today, we throw around the word "love" often and probably too carelessly. I know I am guilty of this at times... If we are not careful, what tends to take shape is that we lose the weight and value of what love really is. Love can be defined in many ways, as there are many different aspects and types of love. But isn't it amazing that the God of the Universe is described in this way? For "God is love" (1 John 4:8;16).

A journalist once interviewed an orphan, a single woman, and a successful and prominent businessman, according to the world's standards. The question that the reporter asked each of them was simple but to the heart: "What do you desire most in life, and if you could have it, what would it be?" All three of these individuals said, "Love, and to be loved by someone." Many people in this world are searching and seeking out love...

Unfortunately, because of this desire, they look for love in all the wrong places and end up settling for the artificial and temporal loves of this life, instead of receiving the eternal love of God. That is why I want to make sure you know of the greatest love of all... The Love of God that John tells us "Was made manifest" to us when Jesus was born. The Love that put aside divine privileges and took the form of a servant. The Love that humbled Himself, taking on humanity to redeem us and save us from our sin. The Love that fulfilled the law by being completely obedient to His Father's will. The Love that became our sin-bearing substitute. The Love that went to Calvary's cross in determination to complete the work of salvation for you and me. The Love that has forever opened the opportunity to be forgiven from all our sins. The Love that overcame death, hell, and the grave. The Love that is victorious. The Love that is kind. The Love that is eternal. The Love that is deep and wide and vaster than all the oceans of this planet. The Love that sits at the Right Hand of the Father, interceding for us. The Love that is there to help us in our struggles. The Love that is there to strengthen us in our weakness. The Love that is always there to be our comforting friend. The Love that encourages us, sustains us, saves us, and endures us through every circumstance. The Love that is coming back soon to gather us in grace so that we can forever be in the presence of Christ Jesus, the One True God, who is Love!

If you don't know this Love... Then please look in faith to the bleeding cross of Christ, in which Jesus died in your place. Please look to the empty tomb and see the assurance of grace that can forever be yours. Please look to the heavens and know that because of Jesus, He has a place for you in His kingdom. Please repent of your sin and believe in the God of Love, and He will most certainly wrap His everlasting arms around you in love.

*"God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).*

Respect the Blood,  
Dalton Mathis