



CHAPTER 6

Jesus Can't Stop Loving You

Have I Exhausted Jesus' Ability to Love Me?

My father came to the Lord very late in life and wrestled with the weight of his past. While my Dad understood that Jesus came to forgive sin for all those who turn to Him, my Dad routinely said, "I understand that Jesus can forgive sin, but not likely my sin because I lived a sinful life and I didn't try to change." This sentiment, that my sin is too vast or unrepentant for Jesus to forgive is common, yet it reveals a critical misunderstanding of who Jesus is and what He is capable of.

There is perhaps no greater fear in the human heart than the fear of being unloved, abandoned, or finally rejected. Many believers quietly wrestle with the question: Can Jesus stop loving me if I fail too many times? If my sin continues? If I fall too far? What if I return to an old habit? What if I doubt? What if I knew better and still sinned? For those experiencing these doubts, it is revealing to explore what they do not doubt:

They do not doubt that God exists.

They do not doubt that Jesus died on the cross.

They do not doubt that the Bible is true.

They doubt that Jesus can still love them. They feel that their sin has exhausted Jesus' ability to love. Scripture answers these fears with overwhelming clarity. Jesus cannot stop loving those who belong to Him.

Romans 8:38–39 declares,

³⁸ For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

³⁹ 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.

— Romans 8:38–39

This promise speaks directly to the believer who fears that a season of spiritual dryness, a moral failure, a relapse into anger, addiction, or secret sin might sever Christ's affection. Paul does not list categories lightly. He sweeps across time, space, spiritual forces, and all creation, and declares none of them possess the power to divide you from Christ's love.

The theological foundation for this certainty is rooted in the high priestly ministry of Christ described in Hebrews. Hebrews 7:25 proclaims, "Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." "To the uttermost" means completely, perpetually, and without interruption. If you wake in the middle of the night burdened by regret, Christ is interceding. If you stumble again in a weakness you thought conquered, Christ is interceding. His love is not passive; it is actively sustaining.

Hebrews 10:14 further establishes permanence: "For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified." Some fear that repeated sin cancels previous grace. But this verse tells us that Christ offered His sacrifice once for all. If Christ has perfected "for ever" those He redeems, then His love is not conditional upon flawless behavior. To withdraw love would contradict the sufficiency of His offering.

Emotions fluctuate but promises do not. Hebrews 13:5 reinforces covenant security: "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." Believers sometimes interpret emotional distance as divine departure. A season of unanswered prayer, grief, depression, or spiritual numbness may feel like abandonment. But feelings are not theology. Because His promises are absolute truths, they stand independent of perception, circumstance, or feelings. Remember that circumstances, feelings, or perceptions do not influence absolute truth. Christ's promise to "never leave thee, nor forsake thee" is an absolute biblical truth.

The writings of John provide profound assurance. 1 John 4:8 declares, “God is love.” Love is not merely something God performs; it is intrinsic to His nature. For Christ to cease loving His redeemed would require Him to cease being who He is.

Jesus’ love for you did not begin with your obedience. 1 John 4:10 explains the origin of this love: “Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.” This dismantles the fear that your present weakness can extinguish His affection. His love did not begin with your obedience; it began with His initiative.

John 10:28–29 assures that no external forces can override His grip on His children:

²⁸ And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

²⁹ My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father’s hand.

— John 10:28–29

Notice the emphasis: no external force, not Satan, persecution, suffering, or circumstance; and no internal struggle, not fear, doubt, temptation, emotional weakness, or personal failure, can overpower Christ or loosen His grip on those who truly belong to Him. You may feel as though you are barely holding onto Christ, but your feelings do not determine the security of your salvation. You are held by His power, and your salvation rests in the strength of His hand, not yours.

Imagine the believer who falls into a sin he swore he would never commit again. The enemy whispers, “This time you’ve gone too far.” Revelation 12:10 calls Satan “the accuser of our brethren.” But accusation is not verdict. 1 John 2:1 offers legal assurance of Christ advocating for you: “If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.” Christ stands as your Advocate. Your failure triggers His intercession, not His rejection.

Romans 5:8 declares, “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” Jesus did not wait for us to become righteous before He loved us; He loved us while we were still sinners. Therefore, our present struggles do not cause Him to withdraw His love.

However, Christ's unchanging love does not make sin inconsequential, excuse deliberate disobedience, or eliminate the call to repentance. The same grace that assures believers of His love also calls them to confess their sins, turn away from them, and grow in holiness. As 1 John 1:9 promises, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Some believers mistake discipline for disqualification and feel Jesus no longer loves them. Hebrews 12:6 states, "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth." But correction is confirmation of relationship. Correction is a mark of sonship, not a revocation of it. A father disciplines his son precisely because he loves him.

John 13:1 declares, "Having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end." On the night before betrayal, denial, and abandonment, Jesus still loved fully. Peter would deny Him three times, yet Christ's love did not evaporate.

Hebrews 13:8 affirms, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever." If Christ's love did not fluctuate before the cross, and did not falter at the cross, it does not weaken now.

Many believers replay forgiven sin in their minds, assuming Christ replays it as well. Hebrews 8:12 declares, "For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more." But divine forgiveness is not temporary suspension, it is covenant removal of sin.

Jeremiah 31:3 proclaims, "Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love." Everlasting excludes an expiration date or our violation of the terms of the covenant. Eternal excludes reversal. Even when fear whispers that you have exhausted grace, scripture declares otherwise.

Conclusion

There are moments when shame convinces us that we have crossed an invisible line, that Christ's patience has finally run out. But Jesus did not love a sanitized version of you. He loved the real you, the future you, the struggling you, the doubting you. The cross is not a surprise, but rather a plan according to God's foreknowledge. And if He knew every failure before you committed

it and chose to die for you anyway, then His love was never fragile to begin with.

Jesus cannot stop loving you because His love is covenantal, sacrificial, intercessory, immutable, and anchored in His own character. The enemy wants you to doubt Christ's love because doubt weakens prayer, stifles worship and paralyzes obedience. But the cross answers every accusation. The resurrection seals every promise. His love does not fluctuate with your failures; it endures because He endures.

REFLECTIONS

Chapter 6 – Jesus Can’t Stop Loving You

Opening Prompt: If Jesus cannot stop loving you, how should that change the way you respond when you feel unworthy, ashamed, distant from God, or convinced that you have failed Him?

Aim: Replace shame and performance anxiety with covenant love and Christ’s intercession.

Anchor Scripture to Read Aloud:

Romans 5:8–9

⁸ But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹ Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

Additional Scripture to Read: Romans 8:38–39; Hebrews 7:25; John 13:1; 1 John 2:1.

Discussion Questions:

1. Which lie about God’s love do you battle most (e.g., “I’ve gone too far”)?

2. How does scripture answer it?

3. How does Jesus’ ongoing advocacy change the way you confess and repent?

Personal Reflection: Write a letter to yourself from Jesus using Romans 5:8 and John 13:1 as the tone.

Daily Practice: When accusation rises, speak Romans 8:1 aloud. Repeat until peace returns.