

The Attributes of God: Week 5, Love

When we speak of the love of God, we mean:

The _____ of God for man:

-The love of God is what inclines Him to be kind, caring, gracious, benevolent and full of goodwill towards mankind.

The _____ of God for man:

-The love of God is what inclines Him to be forgiving, merciful, gracious, longsuffering towards mankind.

The _____ of God towards man:

-The love of God is what inclines Him to be utterly committed to the 'everlasting welfare' or 'ultimate good' of mankind.

Getting to the core of true love:

True love is seeking the ultimate good for another...regardless of the cost to self.

The essence of true love:

-God loves perfectly. Perfect love seeks the absolute best end for others.

-God is the absolute best end in all the universe.

-The best end is for every human to glorify him through praise & submission to him.

-This end is what will bring the most possible joy & satisfaction to each and every person.

Therefore:

God loves every person to the best possible end, which is that they come into a relationship with him where they can glorify him and experience the deepest level of joy & satisfaction they could ever experience anywhere.

-God is the one being in the universe for whom self-exaltation is the most loving act. In pursuing the creation to exalt the creator, he is pursuing us towards what is the absolute ultimate good and what is ultimately best for us.

There is nothing better than God.

-There is nothing more satisfying than being in a relationship with him and having our lives fulfill the purpose of bringing glory to him. Therefore there is no greater love than to purpose the creature towards that end...regardless of the cost.

Our Definition: God loves every person to the best possible end, which is that they come into a growing, God-glorifying relationship with Him...regardless of the cost to himself or the creature.

Scripture: John 3:16, 17:3 & Romans 5:3, 1 Peter 3:18 & Ephesians 1:4, 7, 12

Facets of God's Love:

Unconditional & Uninfluenced

Notes:

Eternal & Unchanging

Notes:

Infinite

Notes:

How should this affect me?

The love of God *should* make me incredibly _____.

Personal Application:

The love of God *should* give me incredible _____.

Personal Application:

The love of God *should* enable me to be _____ in my love.

Personal Application:

The love of God *should* enable my love to be endless & _____.

Personal Application:

The love of God *should* enable my love to be without _____.

Personal Application:

The love of God *should* _____ my love towards the best end.

Personal Application: