

"THE GIFT OF HIS LOVE "

Romans 5:8 *But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*

If there is one characteristic that encompasses the very person of Christ it is His "unconditional love". All throughout the pages of Scripture, He responded to those who loved him and those who hated him alike...with "unconditional love". Long before we were ever saved or desired to know anything about Jesus, God was revealing and showing His love to us. Paul put it this way...God was demonstrating His love toward us, while at the same time we were sinning against Him. Why does God do that? Because "love" is the very nature of God. Since "love" is the very nature of God, "love" is the very nature of Jesus as well. When a person receives the "gift of Jesus" into their lives, they at that moment receive "the gift of unconditional love" not only for time but for all eternity.

God not only loves us, but He enables us and empowers us to love every one irregardless of who they are and what they have done. 2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. If you were asked the question, "Can you love every one?" Chances are some would answer "That is not possible"! The real truth is...we cannot in the flesh, but now that Christ lives in us, we can love all whom Christ loves...for His nature of love resides in all true believers. Sadly, some believer choose not to love certain people...which is totally inconsistent with the nature that God placed in us. In Christ we have been give the capacity to love "absolutely everyone". Paul found "love" a most powerful reality in his own life. Those whom he hated and could not stand and desired to kill, for some reason he found a "love" for. He yearned to be with them, and to develop a relationship with them. Not because of any power of his own. But all because "Jesus" lived in him, and Jesus is all about "being and showing love". That simply is Jesus nature. Paul found himself "loving" those who put him in chain. He found himself "loving" those that persecuted him, rejected him, and treated him wickedly. But he realized that it was not his ability to love...but the love of God flowing through him to others. When a person comes to Christ, they are given at that moment "the spirit of love". Loving is not something you learn to do, but is divinely given by Almighty God.

One of the most amazing truths that Paul realized in all his earthly pilgrimage what that the God who redeemed him, had enabled him, empowered him, and equipped him to "love" in the most difficult situations, and that same truth applies with every born again believer today as well. Jesus living inside of you empowers you to love anyone. When you find those "struggles in life" to love others...be reminded that the Christ who saved you "empowers you" moment by moment and day by day to love as you yield your life to Him.