

## **The Challenge and Comfort of God's Love**

### **Pastor John Carmichael**

I John 3:10, 16-18  
Luke 10:25-37

- Understanding love is a big deal.
- The love of God has a challenge and a comfort part of it. Failing to appreciate both aspects of the love of God will keep us from being healthy Christians.
- Notice 1 John 3:10, 16-18. Born of God vs Born of the devil. Word, tongue vs Deed, action.
- Since love is such a big deal, we need to learn what it is.
- Love has a challenge and a comfort to it.

### **What is the challenge and comfort of love?**

**In Luke 10:25-37, we find the challenge and comfort of love.**

#### **I. God challenges us to love.**

- a. Wrong person. Samaritans were mistreated by the Jews. He could have rejected the injured person because he was mistreated.
  - i. See people as fellow image bearers.
  - ii. Love when its not fair.
- b. Inconvenient. He was on a trip. He completed it but paused it.
  - i. Pause our priorities.
- c. Sharing. Put him on his beast.
  - i. Share influence and authority FOR PEOPLE.
  - ii. Paul example in Philemon. [Phm 1:18 NASB95] 18 But if he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to my account;
- d. Feeling. He felt compassion.
  - i. People matter.
  - ii. "I care. You matter."
- e. Active. He bandaged his wounds and poured in the oil.
  - i. To a level, get involved.
  - ii. Be part of the answer.
- f. Costs something. He gave about 2 days wages and more.
  - i. Love will cost.
  - ii. Time, talent, and treasure.

#### **II. God comforts us with His love.**

- a. God will not call us to love better than He loves us.
  - b. [1Jo 4:19 NASB95] 19 We love, because He first loved us.
  - c. [Mat 7:11 NASB95] 11 "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!
- **God loves us even when we have mistreated Him, we are His priority, He gives us His Spirit, we matter to Him, He is active in our recovery, and gave Jesus for us.**