

Daily Devotional, January 24, 2021

'Jesus Loves You', (John 3:16)

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16, NKJV).

“Jesus wept. Then the Jews said, “See how He loved him!” (John 11:35-36).

“Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end” (John 13:1).

'Jesus loves you.' People need to hear that. It is good to preach the whole counsel of God at all times. But it is even better to preach those special truths needful to certain individuals at the right time. *“A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver”* (Proverbs 25:11). Sometimes folks need to hear the simple truth that Jesus loves them, clearly stated.

There is a reason that there are three Scripture texts listed above. The first is the statement of God's love for all. His love is an unconditional love, a sacrificial love, a giving love, a receiving love, and an eternal love. All men and women benefit from God's love in the general sense, but only those who believe benefit in a special sense. Have you, a sinner, placed your faith in the work of God the Son, the loving Savior? The second verse teaches us of Jesus' love for His friends. Lazarus was a friend of Jesus during His earthly ministry. Even though the Lord knew that He would raise Lazarus up from the grave, the sting and sorrow of death in the world combined with the divine compassion of brotherly love caused Jesus to weep. Here we see the personal love that Christ has for those who are His. Truly it can also be said, 'Jesus loves you.' The third text is set within the context of the Last Supper, with the death of the Lover of our souls looming. *“His hour had come”* to complete the work for which He came, to die a horrible death, that His blood might be shed to satisfy God's wrath against sin. The disciples, and you and I, were on His mind through it all. *“He loved them to the end.”* Each and every one of them. And you. Jesus' love is faithful, constant, everlasting, pure, without agenda, and perfect in all its aspects.

Be encouraged today by these three words: 'Jesus loves you.'