

THE BIBLE VIEW

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Theme: Love in Action

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A Father's Love

C. H. Spurgeon

In the French Revolution, there was a young man condemned to the guillotine and shut up in one of the prisons. He was greatly loved by many, but there was one who loved him more than all put together. It was his father.

The love the father had for his son was proved when the lists were called. The father, whose name was the same as his son's, answered to his boy's name. He then rode in the gloomy prison cart to the place of execution. The father's head rolled beneath the axe instead of his son's. A mighty love was seen as the father died in the place of his son.

See here an example of the love of Christ for sinners. Jesus died for the ungodly. If they had not been ungodly, neither they nor He had needed to have died. If they had not sinned, there would have been no need for a suffering Savior, but Jesus proved his boundless love: "... In that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8b)

Your name was on the condemned list, my fellow sinner. However, if you trust on Jesus' work on the cross for your sins, you shall find that your name is there no longer. Christ's name is put in your stead, and you shall learn that He suffered for you; the just for the unjust, that he might bring you to God.

Is not that the greatest wonder of divine love, that it should be set upon us as sinners? I can understand God's loving reformed and repenting sinners, but here is the glory of it, "God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)

Love Was the Difference

D. L. Moody

Years ago, a little boy in our city attended one of our Sunday schools. His father moved to another part of the city about five miles away. Every Sunday that boy came past thirty or forty Sunday schools to the one he attended.

One Sunday, a lady, who was out collecting students for a Sunday school class, met him and asked why he went so far past so many schools. "There are plenty of others," said she, "just as good."

He said, "They may be as good, but they are not so good for me."

"Why not?" she asked. "Because they love this fellow," he answered, pointing to himself.

Ah! Love won him, "Because they love a fellow over there!" How easy it is to reach people through love! By loving them, Sunday school teachers and others could win more to the Lord. That is how Christ has won most of us!

"A few words of love can make a world of difference." — *Author Unknown*

Real Love

"Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away." I Corinthians 13:4-8

"Selfishness seeks to use God. True love for Him seeks to please Him."

— *Author Unknown*

Too Busy to Love

G. Campbell Morgan

A father and his young daughter were great friends and spent much time in each other's company. One time, the father noted a change in his daughter. If he went for a walk, she excused herself from going. He was grieved about it but could not understand.

When his birthday came, she presented him with a pair of exquisitely made slippers, saying, "I have made them for you."

Then, he understood what had been the matter for the past months. He said to her, "My darling, I like these slippers very much, but next time buy the slippers and let me have you all the days. I would rather have my child than anything you can make for me."

Some of us are so busy for the Lord and doing other things that He cannot get much of us. To us, He would say, "I know your works, your labor, your patience, but I miss our time together."

"Service is love in overalls!" — *Author Unknown*

A Father's Heart

C. H. Spurgeon

When King Henry II was provoked to take up arms against his ungrateful and rebellious son, he besieged his child in a French town. Being near death after being wounded, the son desired to see his father and confess his wrongdoing, but the stern old sire refused to look the rebel in the face.

The young man, being sorely troubled in his conscience, said to those about him, "I am dying. Take me from my bed, and let me lie in sackcloth and ashes, in token of my sorrow for my ingratitude to my father." Thus, he did and then died.

When the tidings came to the old man outside the walls that his boy had died in ashes, repentant for his rebellion, the father threw himself upon the earth and said, "Would God I had died for him." The thought of his boy's broken heart touched the father.

If ye, being evil, are overcome by your children's tears, how much more shall your Father who is in Heaven find your bemoanings and confessions an argument for the display of His pardoning love through Christ Jesus our Lord?

Jesus Cares

Author Unknown

*When you've met some disappointment,
And you're tempted to feel blue,
When your plans have all been side-tracked,
Or some friend has proved untrue;
When you're toiling and you're struggling
At the bottom of the stairs,
It will seem a bit like Heaven,
Just to know that Jesus cares!*

*Oh, this life is not all sunshine,
Some days darkest clouds disclose
There's a cross for every joy-bell,
And a thorn for every rose,
But the cross is not so grievous,
Nor the thorn the rosebud wears,*

*And the clouds have silver linings
When we know that Jesus cares!*

He Let God Care

Walter Knight

Once, when Martin Luther felt very despondent, he heard a bird singing its evening song. Then he saw it tuck its head under its wing and go to sleep. He remarked, "This little bird has had its supper and now is getting ready to go to sleep, quite content, never troubling itself as to what its food will be or where it will lodge on the morrow. Like David, it abides under the shadow of the Almighty. It sits on its little twig content and lets God care."