Wilderness/Promise #15 Pastor Rick Baker

February 13 2022

From the Wilderness of Feeling (Being) Unloved

*Into the Promise of “Loved”*

Eph. 1:4-6; 3:17-19; 1 Jn. 4:7-18; Rom. 8:35-39

*The saving love of God necessitates the sanctifying love and God*

*—*

Consider 3 amazing truths concerning you and God’s love...

1. ***You are loved \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***(Eph. 1:4-6)

Q-When was I first loved?

*In love He predestined us to be adopted as His sons through Jesus Christ...*

*“Before the foundation of the world,”*

(cf. Deut. 7:7-9).

In that love, we bear the responsibility of living **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, which vindicate the glory of God’s loving of the unlovely and results in praise.

1. ***You are loved \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***(Eph. 3:17-19; 1 Jn. 4:7-18)

Q-What is love supposed to be like?

*God’s expression of love toward us is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—being the very \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of love ensures there is no better.*

Love is perfected in us (12)🡪

* Loved perfectly **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (7,11,12)
* Perfect love **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (18)

*Keeping commands is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that I love God (Jn. 14:15);*

*Motivation to keep the commands is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that God loves me!*

***What if I’m not feeling it***? 🡪

1. ***You are loved \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***(Rom. 8:35-39)

Can anything drive a wedge between God’s love and me?

Let’s take a look at the candidates most likely to do just that... (evidences of love abandoned?)

Love is that which \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the most and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the least. (C.S. Lewis)