

July 27, 2020

Because God loves you, He Provides- Part 49

Did you know that God loves you more than anyone else could ever love you?

God proves His love to you by providing **His sincerity** to you. **Rom. 12:9-10**, *“Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.”*

The Greek word for sincere is *anupokritos* which means there is no pretending. God’s love for us is just like Him; absolutely pure. When God says He loves you, He absolutely means it! Paul expounds upon this kind of love as he encourages the church in Rome to love like God loves. He says our love for each other must be sincere. Not pretentious or attempting to impress others, but coming from a genuine heart of love. And then he gives some characteristics of that kind of love.

First, we must hate what is evil. We must despise anything that comes from the evil one or our own evil nature; and parenthetically, we must be willing to put those thoughts and actions to death. **Luke 9:23**, *“Then He said to them all: ‘Whoever wants to be My disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow Me.’”*

Secondly, we must cling to what is good. The word for cling is *kollomenoi* which means to unite, glue or hold together. We must hold onto what is good with a tight grip and not let go.

Thirdly we are to be devoted to one another. The word for devoted is *philostorgoi* which means to tenderly and gently love as a brother. We must love each other as family.

And lastly, we must honor one another above ourselves. The word for honor is *time* which means to put great value upon something or someone. When you put all of these together, you begin to get a picture of the sincere love of God. He hates what is evil. He loves what is good. He is devoted to His children. And, His love brings great value to our lives.

No wonder John says it like this in **1 John 4:7-8**, *“Beloved, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.”*

Dear Father, thank You for Your sincere love. There is no pretension in Your love for us. It is absolutely pure. Thank You for loving us like that! In Jesus Name, Amen