

# Why Love God?

1 John 4:19

## Introduction:

- A. The ugliest story that can be told is one of unreturned love.
  - 1. A parent's unreturned love.
  - 2. A spouse's unreturned love.
  - 3. A friend's unreturned love
  - 4. God's unreturned love.
- B. The greatest love story ever told is God's love for man.
- C. John succinctly states the two parts of this great love story (txt)

## Discussion:

### I. God's Love for Us.

- A. Demonstrated by the *creation* (Gen. 1:26-27)
  - 1. Made the earth for us.
  - 2. Made us in his image.
    - a. An eternal spirit/soul
    - b. Intelligence
    - c. Free will
- B. Demonstrated by his *daily care for us*. (Acts 14:15-17; 17:28)
- C. Demonstrated by the *Scheme of redemption* (Gen. 3:15)
  - a. From Creation to Abraham
  - b. From the call of Abraham until the Redeemer.
  - c. The law as a schoolmaster (Gal. 3:23, 24) – prophecies and types.
- D. Demonstrated by the *incarnation* (Phil. 2:6-11)
- E. Demonstrated by the crucifixion (Rom. 5:8; Matt. 26:27-50)
  - a. The humiliation.
  - b. The suffering.

### II. Our Love for God.

- A. Not in word but in deed (1 John 3:18)
- B. By keeping his commandments (1 John 5:3; 2 John 6)
  - 1. In order to be saved (John 3:16; 2 Pet. 3:9; Rom. 10:10; Mark 16:16).
  - 2. In order to remain saved (Phil. 2:12)
  - 3. In order to receive eternal salvation (Heb. 5:8-9)
- C. By loving His children (1 John 5:1-2)

## Conclusion:

- A. We can never repay that great love.
- B. We can return that love.
  - 1. With acts of service to him and his church.
  - 2. With acts of service to his creation.