



**Teaching Notes:** Ray Davis  
March 18, 2012  
**"The God You Long For"**

## desert breeze community church

Psalm 145:1-21 **"IS LOVE"**

Could an observer learn from the way you love others anything at all about the sacrificial love of God for you? Most have a very simple & shallow view of God's love. When God's love for you goes from concept (head) to reality (heart) it is indeed heaven on earth in which the spiritually underfed are alien to.

### The Complexities of God's Love:

- God loves everybody. (Common Grace) vv9, 14-17 Matt.5:45
- God has a special love for those who call on Him. (Saving Grace) vv18-20 Eph.2:8-10
- God's common grace can and does pave the way for His saving grace and often times that requires a messenger to point out. Vv10-12; Acts 14:17, 17:22-34
- We should live each day thankful for God's common grace, but in utter awe/wonder of His saving grace. Vv1-8, 21
- Anger is an irreducible part of God's love. Vv8, 20 Jn3:16-19; Ezek.33:11
- Beware of falling into one of two extremes:  
Liberal church – God accepts and loves everybody and judges nobody.  
Legalistic church – God only accepts and loves His chosen ones and everyone else can go to hell and we're glad.

### The Completeness of God's Love:

- Our society tends to define love as emotion (feeling, chemistry, desire) or action (duty, stoicism). It's much more! Plato said "Human love is the child of poverty."
- Selfish affection is the helping others only because it profits you. 1Cor. 13:1-3

- God's love binds his heart with ours and so identifies with us that he cannot be happy unless we are flourishing. That's love! Gen. 6:5-6; Isa. 63:9; Hosea II:8; John 15:9-15
- The parent child relationship is the best example of what it means to love someone the way that God loves us. 1John1:3; Matt.6:9, 7:7-11
- The more I live in His astounding love for me the more I can give that to others. Matt.22:34-40; 1John 4:19



# Growing

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- 1) Could an observer learn anything at all about the sacrificial love of God for you from the way you respond to life's events & how you love others? Why is that such an important question in light of making a distinction between those who talk about the love of God & the few that really know the God of love?
- 2) Read Psalm 145. What does it mean that God loves everybody (Common Grace vv9, 14-17; Matt.5:45), but has a special love for those who call on Him (Saving Grace vv18-20; Eph.2:8-10) and how do these verses make that clear?
- 3) How does God's common grace pave the way for His saving grace and often times requiring a messenger to point it out (Vv10-12; Acts 14:17, 17:22-34)? Why should we live each day thankful for God's common grace, but in utter awe/wonder of His saving grace (Vv1-8, 21)? How is anger an irreducible part of God's love (Vv8, 20 Jn3:16-19; Ezek.33:11) & what two extreme perspectives must we avoid falling into?
- 4) Our society tends to define love as affection and/or action. Why is that too simple and shallow? What is selfish affection? Define God's love & how does it incorporate both affection & action with what goal in mind (Gen 6:5-6; Isa 63:9; Hosea11:8; John15:9-15)?
- 5) How is the parent\_child relationship the best example of what it means to love someone the way that God loves us (1John1:3; Matt.6:9, 7:7-11)? The more I live in His astounding love for me the more I can give that to others (Matt.22:34-40; 1John 4:19). What does that mean & how do you live in God's love? Pray.