

Can You Trust God?
Your God Really Does Love You

Romans 4:23 – 5:8

Easter

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brad Bigney / April 12, 2020

The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ declare forevermore that our God *does care* about our world and the people in it.

There are times when the circumstances and confusion of all that's going on in your life may start to drown out any felt sense of God's love in your life so that it doesn't seem real anymore!

Here are some assurances of God's love that are distinct from every other love you'll find in this world:

I. Look at How God's Love Interrupts and Reinterprets Your Suffering and Confusion

Romans 5:8 "But God..."

You might be thinking there's not a soul in this world that cares about you. "But God..."

Your world might be upside down in the middle of one of the most confusing times in your life. "But God..."

You might be feeling hollow and numb from the confusion and uncertainty of all that's been sweeping over your life. "But God..."

God doesn't wait for permission and He doesn't just hover at your heart's door. "But God..." comes crashing in!

II. Look at How God's Love Stands Proven for All Time

God doesn't need to do anything new to prove His love to you.

Romans 5:8 "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Notice the two different verb tenses in this verse. God *demonstrates* (present tense) His own love toward us in that Christ *died* (past tense) for us!

God demonstrates His love today through the once-and-for-all, completed payment of His Son on the cross!

III. Look at How God's Love Is a Specific Love for Specific People

God's love is "toward us" and Christ died "for us!" This is not just a fuzzy, generic offer. It's personal and it has your name on it.

We who once were the objects of God's wrath are now the objects of God's love because Christ died for us and rose again—conquering our sin forever!

IV. Look at When God's Love Was First Shown to Us

v 8 "While we were still sinners"

v 6 "When we were still without strength" (or "powerless" -*NIV*)

v 10 "When we were enemies"

God didn't place His love on you because of anything He saw in you!

We've been lavished with a love that's rooted in God alone. His love is the permanent, unshakable, irrevocable possession of every child of God.

The biggest reason people refuse to believe in Jesus is not for a lack of evidence of who He is and what He's done. It's fear of letting go and losing control!

Unbelief is never simply the absence of faith—it's the presence of something or someone else that you've been placing your faith in.

If you're afraid of losing control, remember what's on the other side of this decision to surrender your life and follow Him:

1. You'll be forgiven and you'll have a hope like never before in the face of unsettling, fearful circumstances because your hope will be tied to something outside of this world.
2. You'll have a peace and joy that's grounded in something deeper than your circumstances.
3. You'll have a sense of being loved and accepted by someone who loves you like you've never experienced in this world.