The Promised King: Love Redefined

Wylie United Methodist Church Pastor Jeff Hatcher – December 23, 2018

<u>1 John 4:7-12</u>

7 Dear friends, <u>let us love one another</u>, for <u>love comes from God</u>. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because <u>God is love</u>. 9 This is how <u>God showed his love</u> among us: <u>He sent his one and</u> <u>only Son</u> into the world that we might live through him. 10 <u>This is</u> <u>love: not that we loved God</u>, but that <u>he loved us</u> and <u>sent his Son</u> <u>as an atoning sacrifice</u> for our sins. 11 Dear friends, <u>since God so</u> <u>loved us</u>, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; but <u>if we love one another</u>, <u>God lives in us</u> and <u>his love is</u> <u>made complete in us</u>.

<u>Agape:</u>

- <u>Selfless</u>, <u>costly</u> love
- to love without condition
- to love <u>without regard</u> for love <u>returned</u>
- to love based on high regard for an individual's inherent value

I. GOD <u>DEFINES</u> LOVE

<u>1 John 4:8</u> <u>Whoever does not love does not know God</u>, because <u>God is love</u>.

2. GOD <u>DEMONSTRATES</u> HIS LOVE THROUGH JESUS

<u>1 John 4:9-10</u>

9 This is how <u>God showed his love</u> among us: <u>He sent his one</u> <u>and only Son</u> into the world that we might live through him. 10 <u>This is love</u>: <u>not that we loved God</u>, but that <u>he loved us</u> and <u>sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice</u> for our sins.

Romans 5:8

God <u>demonstrates his own love</u> for us in this: <u>While we were</u> <u>still sinners</u>, <u>Christ died for us</u>.

<u>John 3:16</u>

"For God so <u>LOVED</u> the world that he <u>GAVE</u> his one and only Son, <u>SO THAT</u> whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

3. GOD <u>DECLARES</u> HIS LOVE THROUGH YOU

1 John 4:11-12

Dear friends, <u>since God so loved us</u>, <u>we also ought to love one</u> <u>another</u>. No one has ever seen God; but <u>if we love one another</u>, <u>God lives in us and his love is made complete in us</u>.