

THE LOVE THAT CHANGES EVERYTHING

August 18, 2013 Various Texts by Bob Branch

MAIN IDEA: God invites you to trust, respond to, enter in, rest, marinate and fortify yourself in His measureless love.

1. **His love is a GIVING love...** His love is poured out in practical generosity to you on a daily basis, as well as in his grander purpose of saving you for eternity with him.

For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. **John 3:16** NLT

What then shall we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? Indeed, he who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all, how will he not also, together with him, freely give us all things? **Romans 8:31-32** LEB (Jas 1:5; Titus 3:6; Eph. 1:3ff)

You know the generous grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich. **2 Corinthians 8:9** NLT (Eph. 2:8-9)

2. **His love for you is COMPASSIONATE...** He is moved by your pain, weakness and sorrow, with deep compassion, care and power.

Moved to the very core of his being: *splagchnízomai*

When He went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and felt compassion for them and healed their sick. **Matt. 14:14** NAS

Moved with compassion, Jesus touched their eyes; and immediately they regained their sight and followed Him. **Matthew 20:34** NAS

When he came to his senses... he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. **Luke 15:17, 20**

He is moved by ***spiritual lostness*** (Matt. 9:37-38); by ***people's hunger and pain*** (Mark 6:34; 8:2; Matt. 14:14; 15:32); by the ***sorrow of others*** (Luke 7:12-13)

3. **His love is an ADOPTING Love...** He loves you enough to go through all the trouble and expense to adopt you into his own family and give you the inheritance of an adult heir!

You did not choose me, but I chose you... **John 15:16**

Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. **Ephesians 1:4-5** NLT (Rom. 8:15-17; Gal. 4:5-7)

4. **His love is a SACRIFICIAL Love...** He loves you so much that he was willing to pay the highest price to reach you.

This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. **1 Jn 4:10** NLT (2:2)

Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God. **Ephesians 5:1-2** NLT

For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood. **Romans 3:25** NLT (Heb. 7:27; 9:26, 28; Mk. 10:45; 1 Pet. 1:18-19)