

GOD LOVES US AND WE SHOULD COOPERATE WITH HIS LOVE

God sent Jesus to rescue us from sin, death, and Satan. Jesus rescued us by defeating sin and Satan at the Cross. Jesus rescued us from death in His resurrection. Jesus is our new Adam. The first Adam chose to sin and was allowed to experience sin. All humanity, through Adam, does sin and does experience its consequence. But God had a purpose, and God still has a purpose for allowing sin, death, and suffering.

Jesus allowed sin to kill His physical body. Because Jesus was sinless in His life and sinless in His death, sin is condemned to total eradication from creation. Jesus arose from the dead with all power and authority to eradicate sin, death, and Satan. This eradication has been delayed for a purpose.

God has allowed all that has happened to humanity for an eternal purpose. God has planned to share eternal life with His created humans, but only cooperating humans who willingly receive Him and experience His love are allowed to participate. John 1:12

Cooperating humans learn to love the way that God loves by experiencing conflict, disappointment, and even grief. Jesus wept at the grave of Lazarus even knowing that He would raise Lazarus from the dead. We love the greatest when we care about the feelings of other people. God wants us to care and to love. Without opportunity to do otherwise, we could not experience the deep emotions of God and the relief we can have when we truly learn that God loves us.

We experience joy the greatest when we have known grief and sadness. We experience goodness and gentleness when we have known harshness. We experience patience the greatest when we have known the agitations of this life with all its sins. We experience peace the greatest when we have known conflict and war.

We can know God's love for us when we realize the reason He sent Jesus to die on a cross. In Jesus, God demonstrated the greatest love possible by letting our sin kill His physical body and yet forgive us. God lets go of the pain of our sins against Him. He does not hold back our opportunity to cooperate with convictions from His Spirit and come to experience His love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, and goodness. God is willing to receive us to Himself when we

want deliverance from sin and when we want to experience the kind of living that is worth living.

Whosoever will call upon God for restoration to right living will be rescued. People are saved by the resurrected life of Jesus. The very life of Jesus enters the person who cooperates by believing and receiving Him. Jesus is truly the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

Many people throughout the world can testify that they have received this new life “in Christ” and now have joy and purpose for living.

To believe and receive Jesus is something that anyone can do. It doesn’t require money, talent, health, or fame. It just requires inward cooperation with the Spirit of God. The outcome is a glorious and fresh lease on life that only God can give. And God gives eternal life. For eternity we get to know the God who created us and everything else for our enjoyment. We have pain for a while as we endure this world of sin, but joy comes in the total restoration of heaven and earth.

There will come a new heaven and a new earth. There will be no more sickness, pain, sorrow, or death. The preparation for eternity that we have undergone in this life is worth the pain. God really does love us. All people have sinned. God only rescues sinners who admit and confess that they are sinners and want to be rescued. Repentance is turning to God for rescue and for wanting a life worth living.

John 1:12; 3:3,16 Romans 8:1-3 Matthew 4:17 1 John 1:9 Revelation 21:22