The Creator's Love

Text: Ephesians 2:4-9 But God, who is rich in mercy, <u>for his great love wherewith he loved us</u>, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: <u>That in the ages to come he might show the exceeding</u> <u>riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus</u>. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: <u>it is the gift of God</u>: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Revelation 19:5-9 And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

Introduction: For God so loved the world... have you ever stopped to think where the world would be without God's love? Some may say, what do you mean? I don't see much evidence of God's love today. Crime is everywhere. Drugs are being openly sold in the streets of our cities. Old people and children are targets of abuse. Multitudes are starving throughout the world. To many, it seems that the world has been forsaken by its Creator. Where is the evidence that God so loved the world? Friend, don't judge God's love until you see all the evidence! The evidence is not in its greatest form in our life today. In heaven, no one will doubt the Creator's love. Heaven will be a place that vibrates with emotional wave after wave of the Love of God toward redeemed man! <u>Yet, there is much evidence of the Creator's Love in our world, even today!</u>

The Evidence of the Creator's Love

♥ Jesus—Born to DIE so we could LIVE

John 3:16-20 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

Charles Finney, "Sin is the most expensive thing in the universe. Nothing else can cost so much. Pardoned or unpardoned, its cost is infinitely great. Pardoned, the cost falls chiefly on the great atoning Substitute (Christ); unpardoned, it must fall upon the head of the guilty sinner,

The cost of sin-- infinitely great whether it is pardoned by Christ or carried into judgment by a lost soul. If by Christ, he paid a terrible price upon the cross. If carried into judgment by the lost soul, it falls upon the head of the guilty sinner as a debt that eternity isn't long enough to pay.

♥ God's Grace: Let us look again at our TEXT

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- 1) HE LOVES US for his great love wherewith he loved us: WE ARE GREATLY LOVED BY HIM!
- 2) GRACE SAVED US WHEN WE WERE DEAD IN SIN: <u>Even when we were dead in sins</u>: RESCUED WHEN WE WERE AT OUR WORST

- 3) GRACE BREATHED LIFE INTO OUR DEAD SOULS: quickened us together with Christ
- 4) GRACE RAISED US UP WITH CHRIST and seated us together with Christ: (God) hath raised us up together: OUR PRESENT POSITION AND CURRENT STANDING WITH GOD
- 5) GRACE PLACES US IN THE HIGHEST POSITION IN GOD'S FAMILY: <u>made us sit together in</u> <u>heavenly places in Christ Jesus</u>: THE HIGHEST POSTION OTHER THAN GOD'S POSITION
- 6) GOD'S GRACE AND HIS KINDNESS TOWARD US IS ETERNAL: <u>in the ages to come he might</u> <u>show the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.</u>
- 7) GRACE IS A FREE GIFT: it is the GIFT of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast
- ♥ God's Gift of the Holy Spirit—Sent from God so we could be PROTECTED, TAUGHT, & ENPOWERED

If not for the Holy Spirit—How many would be saved--how many Christians could stay saved??? John 14:25 These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

John 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

- Christian Missions—Where does the Love for the Lost come from? God places it in our hearts Look around today
 - o 380,000 Christian Churches in America (Beaconjournal.com)
 - o 455,600 Clergy in America (Clergy-Data USA)
 - o 37 million Christian Churches in the World (Quora.com)
 - o 430,000 Missionaries in the World (missionaryportal.webflow,io)
 - o 10 million tithers donate \$50 billion dollars annually in America (nonprofitsource.com)

Why would all of this be done-why would preachers keep preaching-why would missionaries sacrifice all to go to foreign places-why would churches be built- why would churches continue to work, year after year-why would Christians continue to pray for the lost? — UNLESS IT WAS IN THE HEART OF GOD 1ST AND AFTERWARDS PLACED BY GOD INTO THE HEARTS OF HIS PEOPLE?

The Evidence of the Creator's Love can be seen in His extended Mercy on our Fallen World Today, we see a world full of sinful people who continue to blaspheme God.

God's name is blasphemed everyday:

- o in millions of our world's homes and businesses
- on personal TVs and on movie screens
- *in literature and in many books*
- on computers and on countless mobile devices
- o among our teenagers and even among some little children
- the world blasphemes God everyday
 - *by the way they continue to live in sin*
 - by the way they continue to reject his call of salvation
 - by the way they ignore his open-armed offer of FREE GRACE and MERCY

HE IS OUR CREATOR—ALSO, HE IS OUR SAVIOR—IT IS DANGEROUS AND DETRIMENTAL TO YOUR IMMORTAL SOUL TO CONTINUE TO BLASPHEME AND IGNORE HIM!

II Peter 3:3-10 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. But, beloved, be not ignorant

of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. **The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, <u>not willing</u> that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance**. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

Why hasn't Christ returned to earth yet --- the same reason he didn't abandon the cross in his suffering and stop his pain – THE CREATOR'S LOVE HELD HIM TO THE CROSS— He hasn't come back yet --- because he is <u>not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.</u>

CLOSING: IN OUR OPENING TEXT - BEHOLD, THE CHURCH'S FUTURE-

IN THE INTRODUCTION, I STATED THE FOLLOWING: The evidence (of the Creator's Love) is not in its greatest form in our life today. In heaven, no one will doubt the Creator's love. Heaven will be a place that vibrates with emotional wave after wave of the Love of God toward redeemed man!

Revelation 19:5-9 And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

THE CREATOR'S LOVE TOWARD REDEEMED MAN PUT INTO ACTION!

ALSO, IN OUR OPENING TEXT- Ephesians 2 in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.