



Living as a member of God's Family

Class 5: Living for others & not just ourselves

**Don't
FORGET!**



Not ours!

It's GOD'S Family!



God's Election - It's His choice

Luke 10:21-22

21 In that hour Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and **revealed them to babes**. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight.

22 All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the Son, and **the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him**."

God has given Jesus the authority to choose

God's Election - It's His choice

John 6:37, 44, 65

37 **All that the Father gives Me will come to Me**, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

44 **No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him**; and I will raise him up at the last day.

65 And He said, "Therefore I have said to you that **no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father.**"

It's not up to us to make someone believe

God makes the call

Acts 2:39

38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, **as many as the Lord our God will call.**"

**God's promise is only available to
those who He chooses to call**

God's Election - It's His choice

Acts 16:11-15

13 And on the Sabbath day (in Philippi) we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there. 14 Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. **The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul.** 15 And when she and her household were baptized, she begged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay." So she persuaded us.

Until God opens, a veil lies over our minds

God calls & then enlightens

Ephesians 1:16-18 (ESV)

16 I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, **may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, 18 having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you,** what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,

Without God's influence we would end up like unenlightened Paul as a Judaiser

God's Election - It's His choice

Romans 8:28-30

28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, **to those who are the called according to His purpose.** 29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 **Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.**

He calls those who He chooses to include

Implications for our children

- **Always pray for them,** that God will choose to include them in His family
- **Do everything you can to teach them God's ways,** but also realize that it's God's choice
- **If they do choose God's family,** thank God and appreciate what He has done for them
- **Never give up!** God sometimes waits till later in life to open the eyes of our children

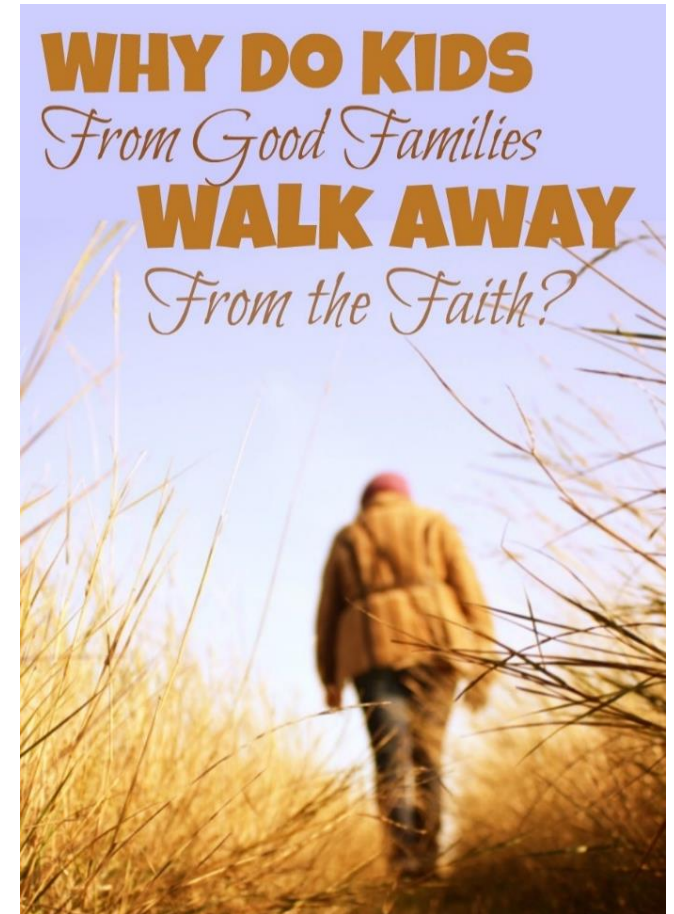


Remember Abraham's & Isaac's families!

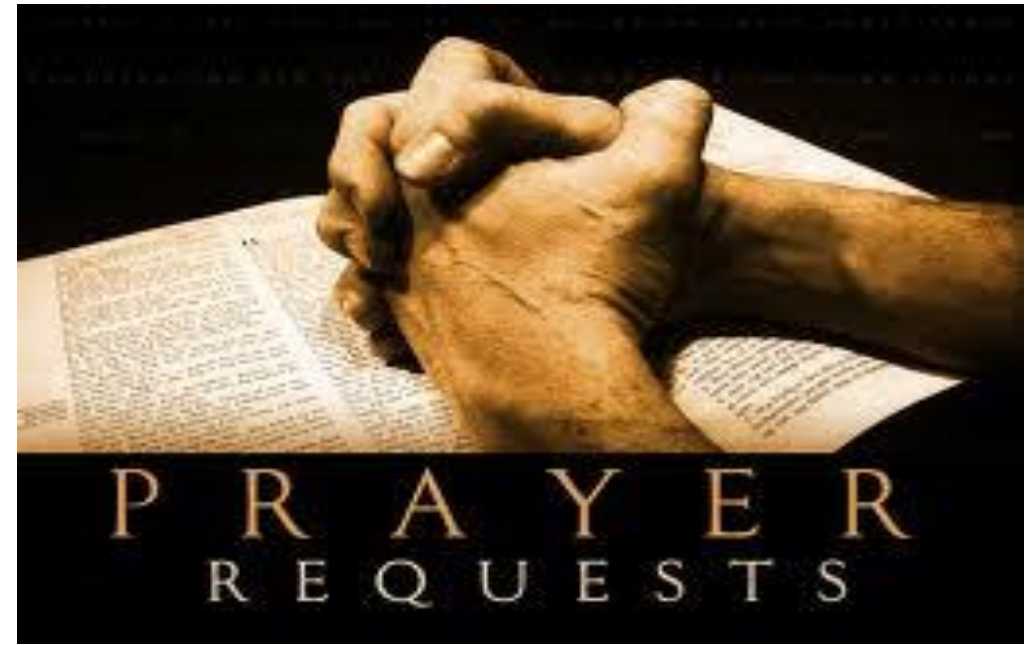
Brings some peace to those whose children have not all accepted God's Truth

- Abraham pleaded for Ishmael
- Isaac loved Esau & wanted him included
- David's family was a disaster
- God has to remind every generation that it's His family and He will call who He wants

**This is not the same as Cain & Abel.
God tried to work with them both!**



Pray for your family,
ecclesia and friends!



Ask God to graciously
include them in His election!





Living as a member of God's Family

Class 5: Living for others & not just ourselves

the me generation





SOCIAL MEDIA ICONS



Don't let them control you!

Be careful!
These can eat up
your life and
encourage you to
focus on all the
wrong things
instead of
preparing us for
God's family!

Love prevents us from becoming selfish Christians

Galatians 5:13-19 (ESV)

13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. **Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.** 14 For the **whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."** 15 But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

16 But I say, **walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.** 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. 18 **But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.**

Those led by the spirit will do far more for God than those living by Law

Where we should begin to
learn how to live for others?

LOOKING UNTO JESUS



Christ's Focus at the Last Supper

Luke 22:14-23

14 When the hour had come, He sat down, and the twelve apostles with Him. 15 Then He said to them, **"With fervent desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer;** 16 for I say to you, I will no longer eat of it ***until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.*"**

17 Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; 18 for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine ***until the kingdom of God comes.*"**

20 Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you. 21 **But behold, the hand of My betrayer is with Me on the table. 22 And truly the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed!"**

Jesus wanted help and he wanted to help his disciples!

All they heard is "kingdom of God"

Luke 22:24-30

24 **Now there was also a dispute among them, as to which of them should be considered the greatest.** 25 And He said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those who exercise authority over them are called 'benefactors.' 26 **But not so among you; on the contrary, he who is greatest among you, let him be as the younger, and he who governs as he who serves.** 27 For who is greater, he who sits at the table, or he who serves? Is it not he who sits at the table? Yet I am among you as the One who serves.

28 "But you are those who have continued with Me in My trials. 29 **And I bestow upon you a kingdom, just as My Father bestowed one upon Me,** 30 that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

**Jesus is getting ready to suffer and
they argue about who will be the greatest**

Jesus prayed for Peter

Luke 22:31-34

31 And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. 32 **But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren."**

33 But he said to Him, "Lord, I am ready to go with You, both to prison and to death." 34 Then He said, "I tell you, **Peter, the rooster shall not crow this day before you will deny three times that you know Me."**

Jesus tried to warn Peter of his denials & help him recover

Try to help and improve
situations, not criticize!



Jesus focused on serving others

John 13:2-5

2 And supper ~~being ended~~ [*“during supper” NASB*], the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him, 3 **Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God**, 4 rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. 5 After that, He poured water into a basin and **began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.**

although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant (Phil 2:6-7) [NASB]

Christ's Focus: learn to serve

John 13:12-17



12 So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? 13 You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. 14 **If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.** 16 Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. 17 **If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.**

**In the midst of his great suffering,
Jesus showed us how to serve one another!**

Jesus got
through his
most
challenging
night by
focusing on
helping
others



Christ's Focus: Serve out of love

John 13:33-35

33 Little children, I shall be with you a little while longer. You will seek Me; and as I said to the Jews, 'Where I am going, you cannot come,' so now I say to you. 34 **A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.** 35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

This is a challenge for all Christ's followers

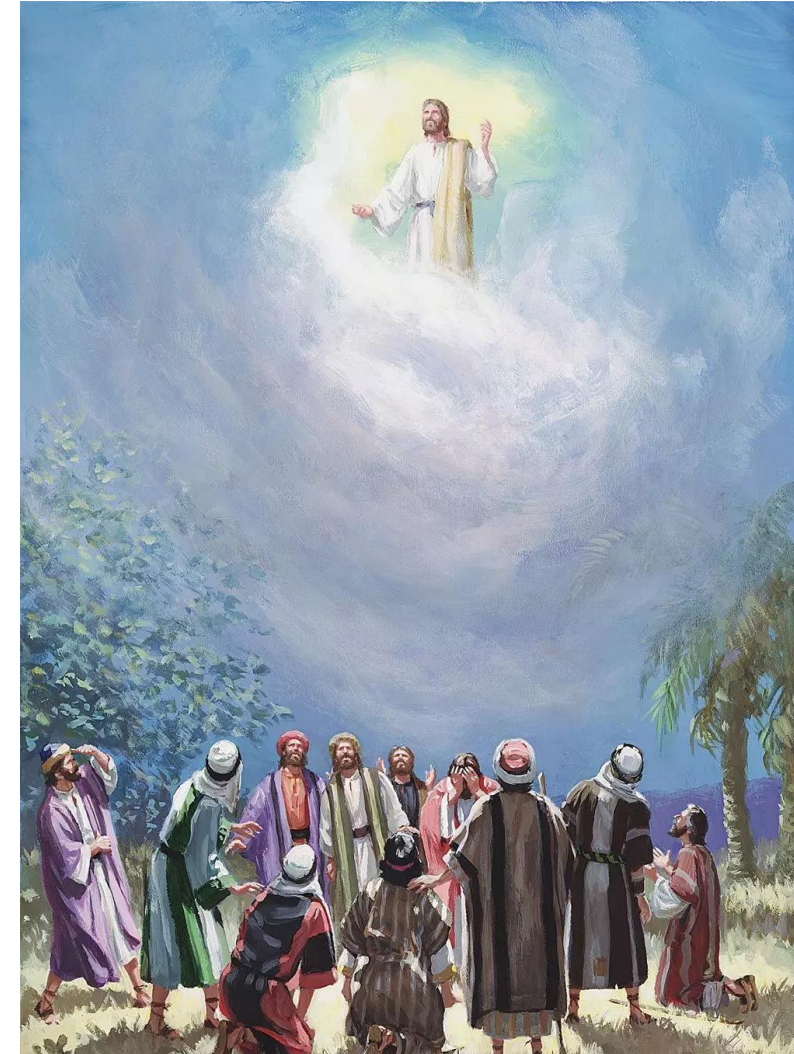
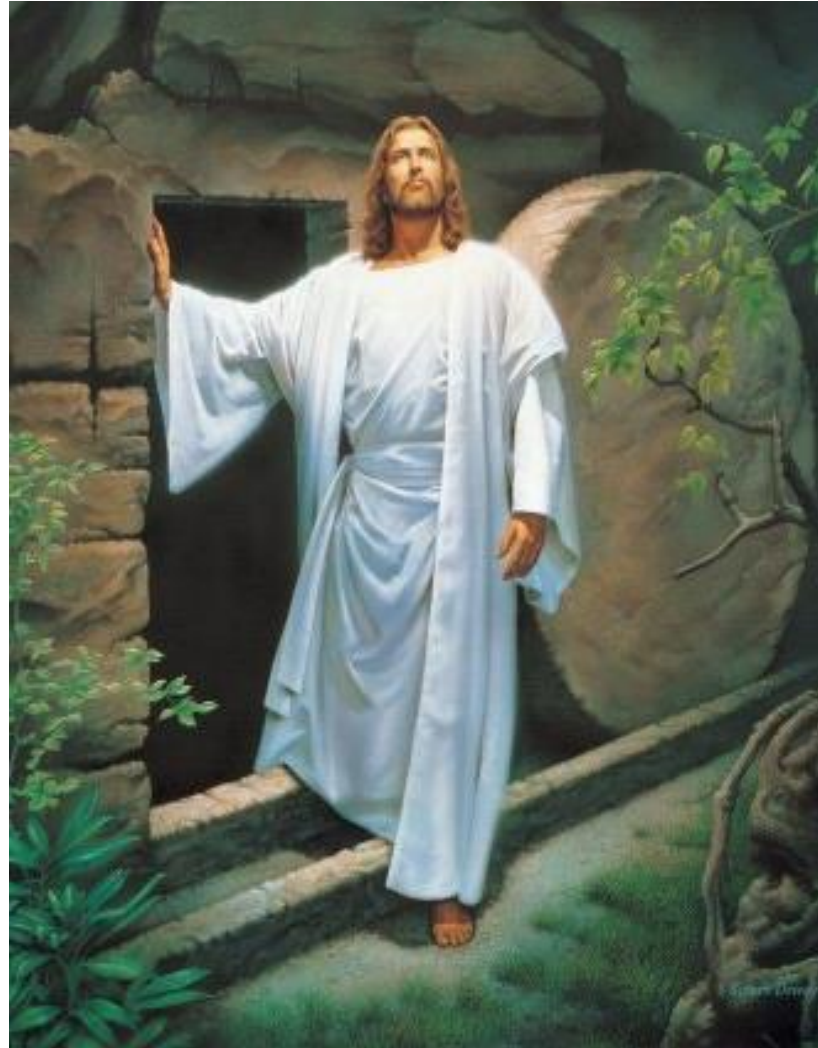
Christ's Focus: I'm going for your sake

John 14:1-3 (NIV)

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. 2 **In my Father's house are many rooms;** if it were not so, I would have told you. **I am going there to prepare a place for you.** 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

**He's on his way to His Father and
will suffer it all for their sakes**

**Jesus crucified, raised from the dead, and
ascended to heaven to prepare a place for us!**



Christ's Focus: I will help you

John 14:12-14

12 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, **because I go to My Father.** 13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 **If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.** *[it's not just 3 words]*

Now Jesus can help us everyday
because he has gone to his Father!

Christ's Focus: I will help you

John 14:12-15 (NASB)

12 "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; **because I go to the Father.** 13

"Whatever you ask **in My name**, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 **"If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.** *[it's not just 3 words]*

15 "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.

**Now Jesus can help us everyday
because he has gone to his Father!**

Christ's Focus: You are my friends

John 15:11-17

11 "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. 12 **This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.** 13 **Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.** 14 **You are My friends if you do whatever I command you.** 15 **No longer do I call you servants,** for a servant does not know what his master is doing; **but I have called you friends,** for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you. 16 **You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit,** and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you. 17 These things I command you, that you love one another.

**Our relationship as friends of Jesus
will compel us to love one another**

**Jesus wants a
friendship relationship
with us where we love
& trust one another**



Christ's Focus: the real enemy is Sin

John 16:5-11

5 "**But now I go away to Him who sent Me**, and none of you asks Me, 'Where are You going?' 6 But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. 7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth. **It is to your advantage that I go away**; for **if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.** 8 **And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin**, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9 of sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 of righteousness, **because I go to My Father** and you see Me no more; 11 of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. **[Sin...not the Romans!]**

**Jesus wanted to go to his Father so
he could send the Helper to assist them**

Christ's Focus: this is all of God

John 16:25-28

25 "These things I have spoken to you in figurative language; but the time is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figurative language, but I will tell you plainly about the Father. 26 In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I shall pray the Father for you; 27 **for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from God.** 28 I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. **Again, I leave the world and go to the Father."**

God loves us & wants us to join Him!

Jesus' prayer: Help our disciples!

John 17:6-12

6 **"I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me** out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. 7 Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. 8 For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me.

9 **"I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours.** 10 And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. 11 Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and **I come to You.** Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are.

Jesus prayed for his disciples when he was going through his greatest test

Jesus' prayer: sanctify our disciples

John 17:13-19

13 **But now I come to You**, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves. 14 **I have given them Your word**; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 15 **I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.** 16 **They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.** 17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. 18 As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. 19 **And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.**

**Christ sanctified himself for his
disciples' sake - so he could save them!**

Where was Christ's Focus?

(John illustrates this in 12-17)



- **He is on his way to his Father** – committed to do his Father's will, not his own
- **Tries to raise the spiritual minds of his disciples**
 - **New commandment:** love one another
 - Serve one another in love, pray for each other
 - Told them what would happen, so they could believe when it came to pass
- **Gives Judas one last chance to stop his betrayal**

**Focusing on God's will & helping others will
get us through our difficult times of life**

Jesus' focus was on saving others

Philippians 2:3-5 NASB

3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but **with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves;**

4 do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. 5 **Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus**

We need to have the same attitude as Jesus

Look at how God's family members behave

Hebrews 1:14

Are they not **all ministering spirits** sent forth **to minister for those who will inherit salvation?**

Psalms 34:6-7

6 This poor man cried out, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.

7 The **angel of the Lord encamps all around those who fear Him, and delivers them.**

The angel supported David's plan with Achish

God can train us to care more about others

Philippians 2:17-30

Paul: 17 Yes, and **if I am being poured out as a drink offering on the sacrifice and service of your faith,** I am glad and rejoice with you all. For the same reason you also be glad and rejoice with me.

Timothy: 19 But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly... **For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state.** For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus.

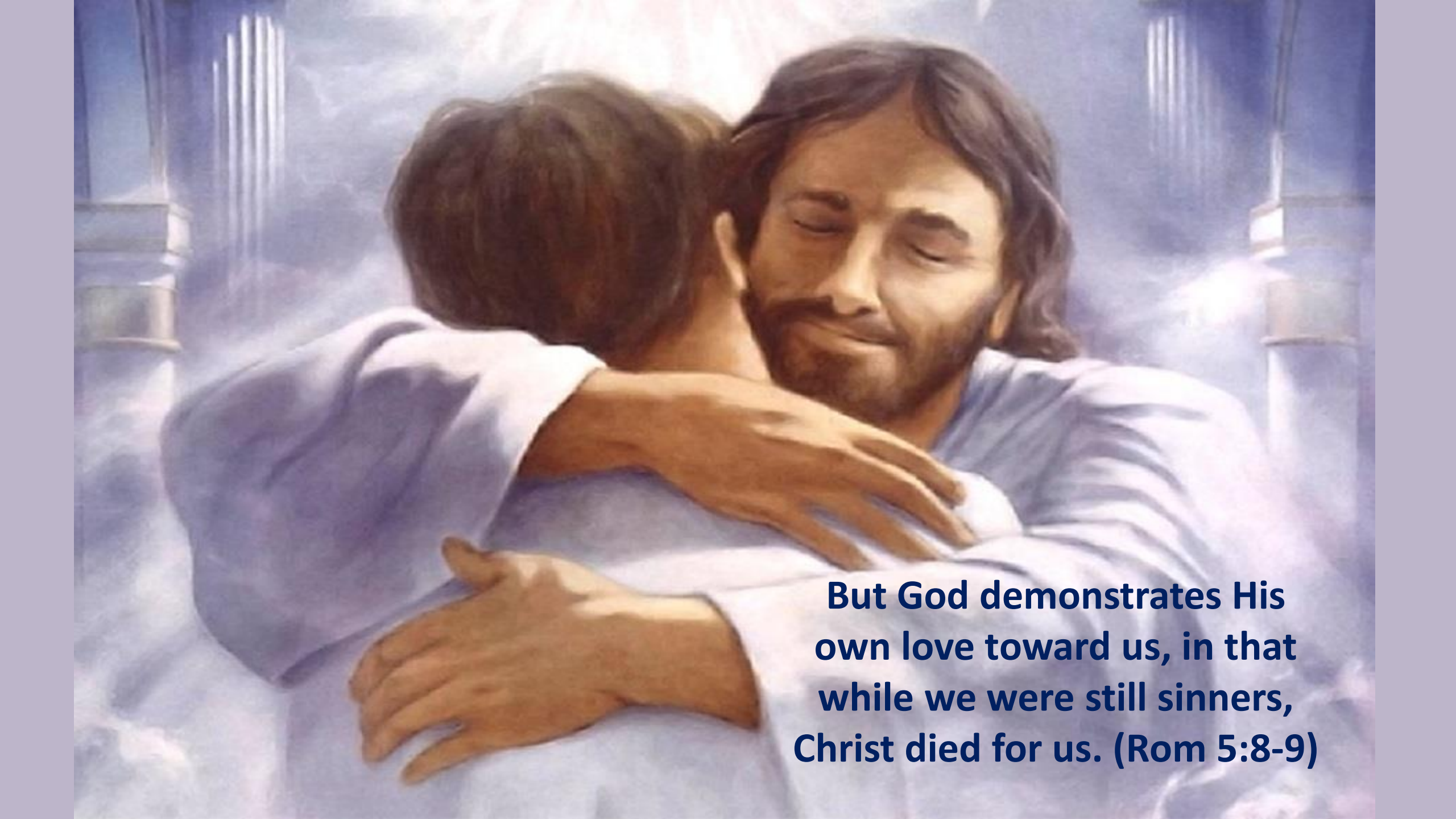
Epaphroditus: 25 Yet I considered it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier, but your messenger and **the one who ministered to my need;** ...for the work of Christ he came close to death, **not regarding his life, to supply what was lacking in your service toward me.**

This is how God's family members behave

Don't wait for people to deserve your kindness

Joseph



A painting depicting Jesus with long brown hair and a beard, wearing a blue robe, embracing a man with dark hair from behind. The man is wearing a white robe. They are in a heavenly setting with soft, ethereal light and architectural elements like columns in the background. The overall mood is one of love and redemption.

**But God demonstrates His
own love toward us, in that
while we were still sinners,
Christ died for us. (Rom 5:8-9)**

Having a loving relationship with God
brings confidence for the day of judgment

1 John 4:16-19 (ESV)

So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. 17 **By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment,** because as he is so also are we in this world. 18 **There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear.** For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.

There is no fear in love

The Benefits of Submission

**Let every soul be
subject to the
governing
authorities. For
there is no authority
except from God,
and the authorities
that exist are
appointed by God.
Romans 13:1-2**



We must submit to one another in love

1 Peter 5:5-7

5 Likewise you younger people, **submit yourselves to your elders.** Yes, **all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility,** for

"God resists the proud,
But gives grace to the humble."

6 Therefore **humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,** 7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

This is part of learning to submit to God

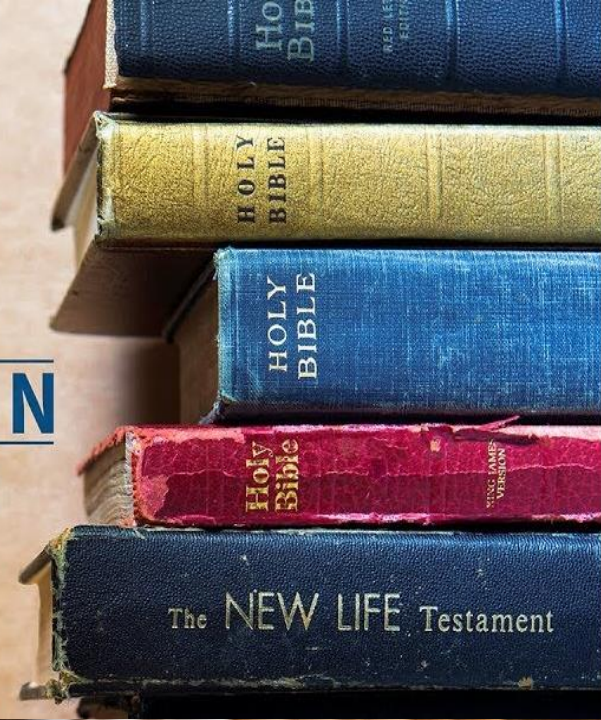
Submitting to God,
may involve
submitting to others

Not my will, but
Yours, be done





Which Bible TRANSLATION Should I Use?



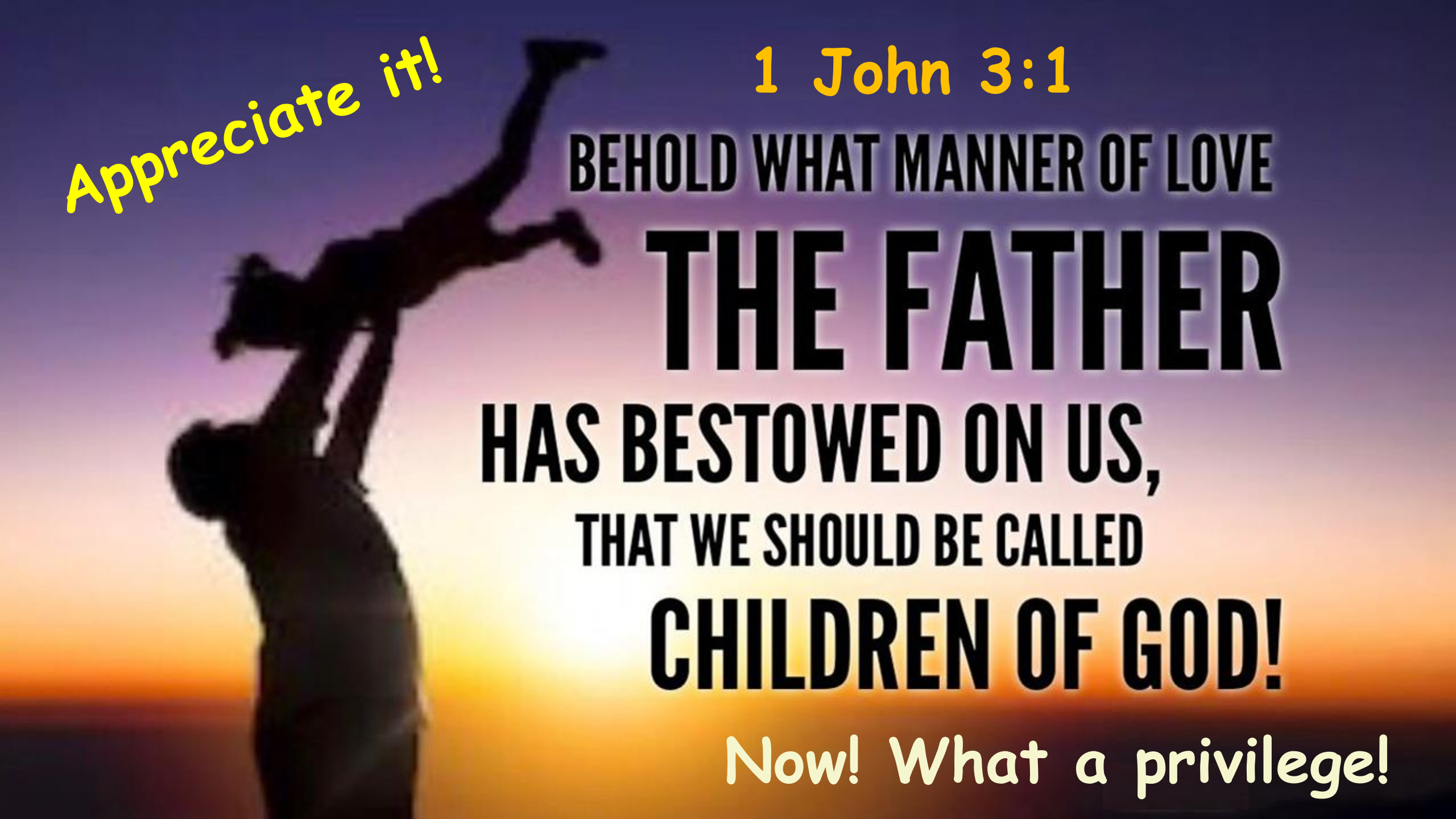
Be careful!

**Jesus
suffered our
punishment**

**Some ideas
we are
exposed to
are wrong!**

**Jesus needs
to beg God
to forgive us**





Appreciate it!

1 John 3:1

BEHOLD WHAT MANNER OF LOVE
THE FATHER
HAS BESTOWED ON US,
THAT WE SHOULD BE CALLED
CHILDREN OF GOD!

Now! What a privilege!

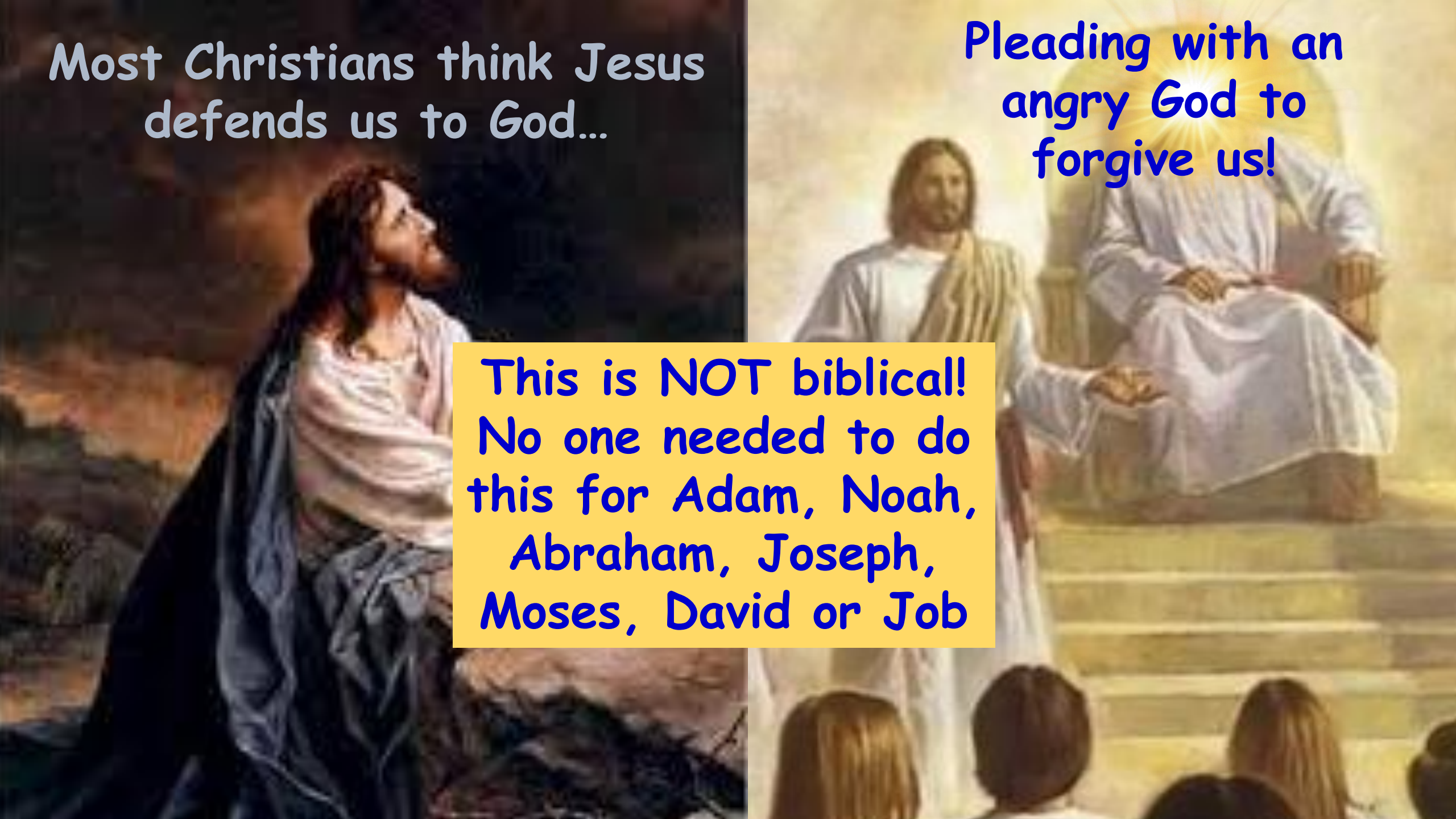
Most Christian religions were built off the premise of an angry God wanting to punish His sinning children

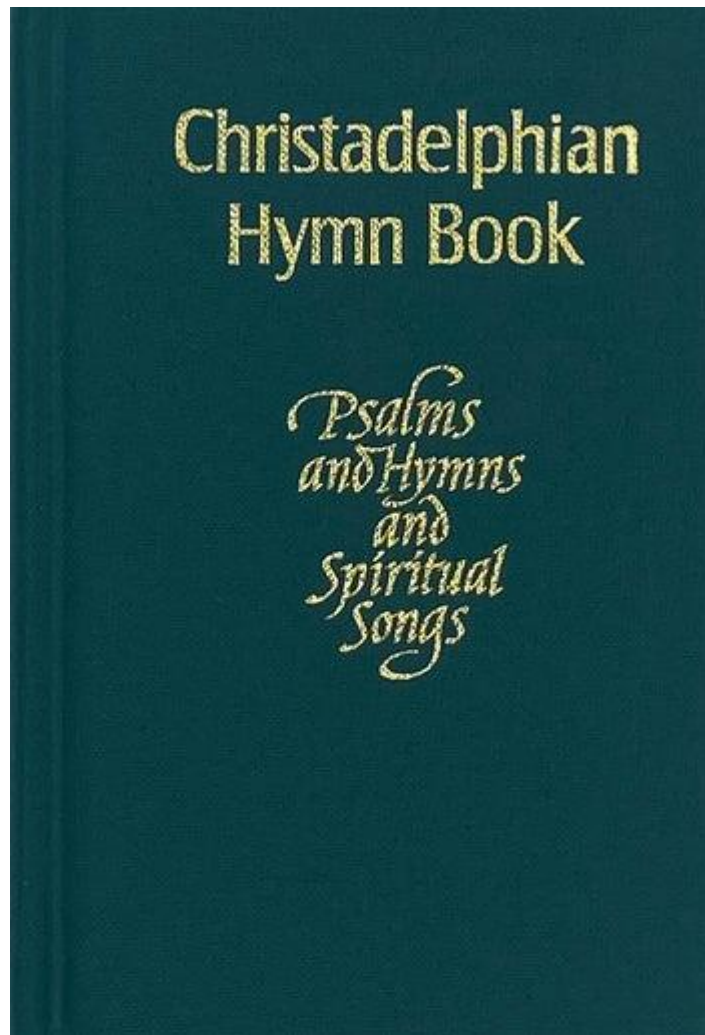


Most Christians think Jesus
defends us to God...

Pleading with an
angry God to
forgive us!

This is NOT biblical!
No one needed to do
this for Adam, Noah,
Abraham, Joseph,
Moses, David or Job





Be Careful! Some of the hymns in our hymn books were written by Christians who believed in an angry God who needed to punish Jesus for our sins, and needs Jesus to plead with God to be merciful to us!



PTL 184 I know that my redeemer lives

These unbiblical concepts from the Christian community have slipped into our hymn books!

2 He lives, to bless me with his love,
he lives, to plead for me above.
He lives, my hungry soul to feed;
he lives, to help in time of need.
He lives, to help in time of need.

Thankfully, God is the one who initiated our salvation and wants to save us more than anyone else

43 He was pierced for our transgressions

Words and music: Revd MAGGI DAWN
Isaiah 53

Thoughtfully

D A/D G D/F# D/G A

(1) He was pierced for our trans-gres-sions,
(2) led like a lamb to the slaugh-ter,

D/F# G D/F# A D

and bruised for our in-i-qui-ties;
al-though he was in-no-cent of crime;

A/D G D/F# D/G

and to bring us from the land of the living,
and cut off from the land of the living,

A D/F# G D/F#

pun-ished, and by his
li-ving, he paid for the guilt

PTL 43

He was pierced for our transgressions,
and bruised for our iniquities;
and **to bring us peace he was punished,**
and by his stripes we are healed.

He was led like a lamb to the slaughter,
although he was innocent of crime;
and cut off from the land of the living,
he paid for the guilt that was mine.

**God did not punish Jesus and he
was not suffering the punishment
we deserve as sinners!**

GB 249

CHRIST: HIS RESURRECTION

1 Christ the Lord is ris'n again!
Christ hath broken every chain!
Hark, the angels' joyful cry,
Singing evermore on high:
Hallelujah!

2 He who gave for us his life,
Who for us endured the strife,
Is our Paschal Lamb today!
We too sing for joy, and say:
Hallelujah!

3 He who bore all pain and loss
Comfortless upon the cross,
Lives in glory now on high,
Pleads for us, and hears our cry:
Hallelujah!

4 Thou, our Paschal Lamb indeed,
Christ, today thy people feed:
Take our sins and guilt away,
That we all may sing for ay:
Hallelujah!

GB 238 CHRIST: THE BREAKING OF BREAD

1 O God in highest heaven,
Our God that hearest prayer,
Through Christ—whom Thou hast
given,

1 Jn 2:1 **Our Advocate,** Thine Heir;
Greek word for "helper"
or "comforter"
in Jn 16:7
Now, strong in hope, united,
Around Thy feast we meet;
Receive from him our incense;
He is thy Mercy-seat.

1 John 2:1 But if anybody does sin, we have one who **speaks to the Father in our defense** — Jesus Christ, the righteous one. (NIV)

GB 258

1 A Great High Priest is come
Who stands in Aaron's place;
Who, honouring the law,
Established life and grace:
'The law through Moses' service came,
But grace and truth by Jesus' name.

2 He once temptation knew,
That he might truly find
A fellow-feeling true
With every tempted mind:
In every point our Head was tried
Like us, and then for us he died.

3 He died, but lives alway,
And in the holy stands
To plead for saints who pray,
To hold up failing hands:
Our advocate abides in heav'n
That erring saints may be forgiv'n.

4 We other priests deny,
And laws, and offerings too
None but the Priest on high
The mighty work can do:
Through him, then, all our praise be
giv'n,
Who pleads his household's cause in
heav'n.

Jesus does not need to plead for us with His Father
because God has already entrusted him with the
authority to make these decisions - "All authority has
been given to Me in heaven and on earth." (Mat 28:18)

GB 262 CHRIST: HIS PRIESTHOOD

4 He was made sin for us to show
The way of life and love;
For us he gave his life below,
And pleads for us above.

The only way this could be understood in Truth
is that Jesus is pleading with our mind of the
spirit he is growing in us to encourage us to
defeat Sin - not pleading with his Father

PTL

177

How deep the Father's love

Thoughtfully $\text{♩} = 112$

C F#m7 E/G# A2

1. How deep the Fa - ther's love for us how

E/G# A/C# E/B A2 E/G# C#m7

How great the pain of sear - ing loss: the Fa - ther turns his face a -

B7sus4 B7 E F#m7 E/G#

way as wounds which mar the cho - sen

God is doing everything He can to save us

Romans 8:28-39 ESV

28 And we know that **in all things God works for the good of those who love him**, who have been called according to his purpose.

31 What, then, shall we say in response to this? **If God is for us, who can be against us?** 32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all — how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? 33 **Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies.** 34 Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died — more than that, who was raised to life — is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us *[in our war against Sin]*.

God has always been the most invested in saving us

God is doing everything He can to save us

Romans 8:28-39 ESV

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? **36** As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. **38** For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, **39** neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, **will be able to separate us from the love of God** that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

God has always been the most invested in saving us

And I am sure of
this, that he who
began a good work
in you will bring it to
completion at the day
of Jesus Christ.

(Phil 1:6 ESV)

