October 18, 2020

Because God loves you, He Provides- Part 131

Did you know that God loves you more than anyone else could ever love you?

God proves His love to you by **His dying love**. 1 Pt. 3:18 "For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was <u>put to death</u> in the body but made alive in the Spirit."

The Greek word for death is *thnesko* which means *to die physically, to be pronounced dead*. It is amazing to me how many people try to explain away the death of Jesus. There have been all kinds of theories propagated trying to say that Jesus wasn't completely dead on the cross. He must have still been alive; how else would He have appeared to the disciples and over five hundred witnesses after His crucifixion? History proves He was dead. The ultimate proof of that was that the soldier did the spear test. Having been taught how, he plunged the spear into the side of Jesus and the scripture says, *blood and water flowed*. This could only happen if the pericardium (the membrane enclosing the heart) had been pierced and the water within it and the blood within the heart would then flow out. Jesus died on the cross! But.... He didn't stay dead! He was made alive again to proclaim victory over death and sin! God demonstrated His love for us in this act; while we were sinners, Christ died for us. And, just so you know, no one was able to kill Him, but instead He willfully gave Himself up for us. He took our place. He paid the price of our sin debt. He became all sin so that we could be made completely clean and whole. This is the greatest act of love that has ever been given!

Dear Father, You gave Your life in exchange for our eternal life. You made a way for us through the spotless Lamb of God, Jesus. Help us Lord to show our love for You and for people by sharing the gospel. In Jesus Name, Amen