

Is God's Love
Conditional?
John 15:9-11



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As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

1. God's general love for every human being.

- 1.1. God's care and concern for every human being.

Matthew 5:43-45 - You have heard that it was said, "Love your neighbor and hate your enemy." But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be...

1. God's general love for every human being.

1.1. God's care and concern for every human being.

...sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

1. God's general love for every human being.

1.2. God sent his Son to be the Saviour of the World.

John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

2. The Special Kind of Love God Has for Israel.

Deuteronomy 4:37 - Because he loved your forefathers and chose their descendants after them, he brought you out of Egypt by his Presence and his great strength.

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Deuteronomy 7:7-8 - The LORD did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. But it was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath he swore to your forefathers that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

2. The Special Kind of Love God Has for Israel.

Deuteronomy 10:15 - Yet the LORD set his affection on your forefathers and loved them, and he chose you, their descendants, above all the nations, as it is today.

2. The Special Kind of Love God Has for Israel.

Romans 11:28-29 - As far as the gospel is concerned, they are enemies on your account; but as far as election is concerned, they are loved on account of the patriarchs, for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable.

3. God's Special Love for the Church

Ephesians 5:25-30 - Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this same way...

3. God's Special Love for the Church

... husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church - for we are members of his body.

4. God's Predestinating Love

Ephesians 1:3-6 - Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in...

4. God's Predestinating Love

...accordance with his pleasure and will - to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

4. God's Predestinating Love

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

Romans 8:29 - For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers....

4. God's Predestinating Love

Romans 9:10-16 - Not only that, but Rebekah's children had one and the same father, our father Isaac. Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad - in order that God's purpose in election might stand: not by works but by him who calls - she was told, "The older will serve the younger." Just as it is...

4. God's Predestinating Love

...written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated." What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all! For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." It does not, therefore, depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy.

What about John 15:9-11?

Jude 21 - Keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you eternal life.

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What about John 15:9-11?

1. Not speaking about how you get into a relationship with Christ; it's talking about remaining in your relationship with Christ.
2. This kind of love is based on obedience.
3. This is a special kind of love that involves being proud of someone, being pleased with someone, and being in a good relationship with them.

What about John 15:9-11?

Matthew 3:16-17 - As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with whom I am well pleased."

What about John 15:9-11?

4. A person can't be saved without that kind of love.

5. This love is conditional but God himself makes sure that everyone who truly belongs to him will remain in his love.

What about John 15:9-11?

John 15:16 - You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit - fruit that will last.

Romans 8:30 - And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

Conclusion

Is God's love conditional or unconditional?

- ▶ It depends on what kind of love you're talking about.
- ▶ The most important one is unconditional because it's what ultimately leads to us being saved.