

# Love, God

---

Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024 ▪ Ryan Wildauer

The theme of the Bible is, "God \_\_\_\_\_ His people."

The purpose of the cross is the salvation of \_\_\_\_\_ people.

The result of the resurrection is access to \_\_\_\_\_ life.

## ***Romans 5:6-9***

---

<sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— <sup>8</sup> but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. (ESV)

## **Romans 6:3-11**

---

<sup>3</sup> Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

<sup>4</sup> We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

<sup>5</sup> For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup> We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup> For one who has died has been set free from sin. <sup>8</sup> Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup> We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup> For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. <sup>11</sup> So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. (ESV)

### ***Personal Reflection or Group Discussion Questions***

---

**Open:** What values does your celebration of Easter tend to emphasize?

**Read & Discuss:** Romans 5:6-9

1. According to these verses, what was our condition when Christ died for us? Is this how you see yourself today? Why or why not? How is that condition relevant to the larger point Paul is making?
2. What do we learn about the love of God from verses 7 and 8? How would you expect our understanding of that love to impact our response to God?
3. Why does Paul say in verse 9, "Since...we have been...,much more shall we..."? How does the cost of our salvation encourage our confidence in God's commitment to reconciling us to Him?

**Read & Discuss:** Romans 6:3-11

4. What does it mean to be "baptized into Christ" and so "baptized into his death"? (See *1 Corinthians 12:13*; *2 Corinthians 5:21*.) When sharing the Gospel, how would you explain why our sin is so bad that we deserve death because of it?
5. Why is it essential that we are first "united with" Jesus in His death (v. 5) if we are going to then walk with Him in the "newness of life," as verse 4 says? In what sense are we no longer "enslaved to sin" and now "free from sin" as verse 6 and 7 state? What helps you to live out this freedom?
6. What does it mean to "consider [ourselves] dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus" (v. 10)? Why "must" we do this, as Paul says? How might "considering" this impact your life this week?

**Pray:** Pray that we would grow in our appreciation of all Christ did for us through His life, death, and resurrection—and that we will daily consider ourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.