



Love is Greater Than Death

From the series titled: *Love is Greater*

Pastor Mike Graham – April 9, 2023
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A. Love Redefined ([Deuteronomy 6:4-5](#); [Mark 12:30-31 NLT](#))

- We love our neighbor ([John 13:34](#); [15:12-13](#))
 - a. As we love ourselves
 - b. At the expense of ourselves
 - c. To the death of ourselves

B. Love Demonstrated ([Romans 5:6, 8](#))

C. Love Resurrected

1. Internal Motivation – He had compassion, love, and empathy. ([2 Corinthians 1:3-4](#); [1 John 4:19](#))
2. External Motivation – For the joy set before Him. ([John 15:10-15](#); [1 Corinthians 6:14](#); [15:51-52](#); [Hebrews 12:2](#))
 - a. On the other side of the cross He could see joy. He laid down His life knowing joy was on the other side.
 - b. Love displayed at His expense would lead to forever joy with the Father.
 - c. The life that He laid down was raised three days later. ([Matthew 28:2-5](#))
 - d. Jesus was raised from the dead, glorified, and sits at the right hand of the Father. ([Hebrews 1:3](#))
 - e. He laid down His life in our place that a way might be made. Forgiveness can be graciously given to all who believe.
 - f. Joy was not experienced by avoiding pain, it was experienced by going through it for our sake.
 - e. It is one of the great paradoxes of the Christian faith: Through temporal pain Jesus now experiences eternal joy. It will be the same for us!

***The joy that Jesus is experiencing right now is the joy
that we will experience with Him for eternity!***

A life laid down for the sake of others is a life filled with the joy of Jesus.