

## Romans 5:8

συνίστησι δὲ τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ἀγάπην εἰς ἡμᾶς ὁ Θεός, ὅτι ἔτι ἁμαρτωλῶν ὄντων ἡμῶν Χριστὸς ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν ἀπέθανε.

ESV

NKJV

<sup>8</sup> but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

<sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5 brings a message of hope and encouragement, asserting the benefits of justification through faith. It emphasizes the triumphant power of God's love, which grants us peace, hope, and grace. Despite the reality of sin that started with Adam, we can find solace in the abundance of God's grace through the gift of righteousness in Jesus Christ.

The nature of God is selfless, self-giving love. The Ten Commandments describe that kind of love which we are called to for both God and our neighbor. The clearest expression and demonstration of that love from God is in the gift of His Son to us as sinners who could not save ourselves. His death upon the cross is the greatest demonstration of God's love for us because it is the offering up of Himself for the unworthy and the undeserving who could do absolutely nothing to save themselves from their sin. His death is both the fulfillment of the Law and the source of our life and salvation through the forgiveness of our sins.

“God then makes manifest the greatness of His love towards us, in the death of Christ having been undergone, not for such as had been just, but for such as were yet transgressors. For we now have been justified by faith in Him, but, when He undertook that death for us, we were still subject to every kind of sin; the words, in time, mean, at the fit time, in due time, and this he says also in his epistle to the Galatians, (iv. 4, 5.) ‘But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.’” (Theodoret of Cyrus, 393-458AD)