

Delivering Love

Memorial Day is a public legal holiday in the United States of America and among its armed forces worldwide. It honors U.S. citizens who have died in war fighting for the freedom that we now enjoy.

This day was originally set aside to honor those who died in the Civil War and then later on it was expanded to include all those U.S. citizens who have died in any war defending our great country.

National observance is marked officially by the placing of a wreath on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.

- **The purpose of this holiday is said to be this:** It is for the purpose of remembering and of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in the defense of our country. ***It is a holiday for us to simply remember the price that was paid for our freedom.***

Memorial Day

I wonder though how many of us will remember what the holiday is for. I wonder if any of us will take the time on **Memorial Day** to think about those who gave their lives for our freedom.

In Washington D.C., there stands a stately monument called the **Lincoln Memorial.** It honors President Abraham Lincoln and the virtues of tolerance, honesty, and faithfulness in the human spirit.

We have the **Lincoln Memorial** to **help us remember** what a great man President Lincoln was and to help us remember the things that he accomplished while he was alive.

A memorial helps us keep a memory of something significant that has happened alive in our hearts and minds.

All throughout the Bible God has ordained that there would be memorials.

He has instituted the practice of **building and having memorials** in our life. It is beneficial for us to remember the things that Jesus has done in each of our lives.

In a Biblical sense **a memorial is a sacrifice**, a monument or an event that **brings us into remembrance of something that God has done**.

The word **memorial in scripture** comes from a word that means to prick, to pierce, or to penetrate the memory.

So **memorials are to** aid man's memory in preserving what he cherishes the most.

Delivering Love

John 3:16 - NKJV

¹⁶ For **God so loved** the world that **He gave** His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have (**we receive**) everlasting life.

John 15:13 - NKJV

¹³ **Greater love has no one** than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.

God so loved the world that **He "gave."**

- This is **the secret of love**
- To give, to share, that **others may benefit**.

Jesus Christ, the begotten Son, was given to the world to share His mercy and grace to all.

God delivered His love through the Son.

- It wasn't enough for God to speak from Heaven and say, "I love you, world."
- **Love shows action.**

The delivering love of God was seen by His Son dying on the cross for our sins.

When Jesus Christ walked this earth, He showed His love.

1. Sharing love.

Jesus opened the eyes of the blind, healed lepers, caused the dumb to talk, and raised the dead. He gave power to His disciples over all the forces of the devil.

Christ gave us an example that we ought to love one another.

John 13:34-35 - NKJV

³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you **love one another**; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. ³⁵ **By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.**"

As Christ loved us, we are to love one another.

- ***We are not disciples of Christ*** by building a huge Temple.
- By giving large sums of money.
- By looking holy.
- ***We are disciples of Christ*** if we love one another.

As Jesus shared His love, we are to share our love to our neighbors.

- **Love your neighbor**, be gentle, kind, and considerate.

When Jesus walked this earth, He showed:

2. Enduring love.

Jesus endured hunger, that we might be fed. **He endured the shame and beatings for our sake.**

- He endured the crown of thorns.
- He endured the nails in His hands.
- He endured the stripes upon His back.

Hebrews 12:2 - NKJV

² looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him **endured** the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

We are to endure all things for Christ's sake.

2 Timothy 2:10 - NKJV

¹⁰ Therefore **I endure all things** for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

- Let us have the enduring love of Christ.
- Let us **endure** the trials and persecutions.
- Let us **endure** the shame and ridicule, **living for Him.**

Paul told Timothy to endure afflictions.

- **Christ** endured more than we will ever experience.

Jesus tells us in

Matthew 10:22 - NKJV

²² And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But **he who endures** to the end will be saved.

- Endure all things
- Hold on to enduring love.

When Jesus walked this earth, He showed:

3. Faithful love.

Christ was faithful unto death, even the death of the cross.

- He was faithful in His service.
- He was faithful in His cause for salvation to all.

We today, are to demonstrate faithful love.

- **We should be faithful** to the House of God.
- in giving of our substance.
- in our praise and worship.
- to our word.
- to our spouse.

If we remain faithful -

Revelation 2:10 - NKJV

¹⁰ Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw *some* of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. **Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.**

God wants us to demonstrate faithful love!!!!!!!

When Jesus walked this earth, He showed:

4. Forgiving love.

When He was on the cross, Jesus said, ***“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”***

- Jesus, in His dying hour, **forgave** those who were against Him.

We need to demonstrate this forgiving love today.

Matthew 18:21 – NKJV - ***The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant***

²¹ Then Peter came to Him and said, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?”

Peter was admonished by Jesus **to forgive** his brother **seventy times seven**.

Let us forgive others, as Christ forgave us of our sins.

- Our world would **be a better place**,
- **if we demonstrated forgiving love**.

When Jesus walked this earth, He showed:

5. Saving love.

While on the cross, **Jesus saved a thief**, who cried out for mercy.

In His earthly ministry, He forgave and saved others.

His willingness to die on the cross, was an act of saving love for the whole world.

Jesus came to save, heal, and proclaim *the gospel*, and *the Kingdom of Heaven*.

Let us go forth today, **with the saving love of God**, and **reach out with the gospel of Christ**.

Peter preached the gospel on the Day of Pentecost, with saving love.

He was concerned for the lost souls of his generation.

When Jesus walked this earth, He demonstrated:

6. Conquering love.

Jesus **conquered** death, Hell, and the grave. He **conquered** the forces of Satan for our behalf.

He stands today, as the world greatest **conqueror**.

- He **conquered more than** Alexander the Great.
- He conquered more than Caesar.
- He conquered more than Napoleon.
- **Jesus conquered through love.**

Let us go forth today, **with the conquering love of Christ**, and set the captives free.

- We can conquer temptation.
- We can conquer the forces of Satan.

Paul said, in **Romans 8:37** - NKJV

³⁷ Yet in all these things we are **more than conquerors** through Him who loved us.

When Jesus walked this earth, He demonstrated:

7. Sustaining love.

Jesus was the burden bearer. He bore our sins on the cross. All things were sustained by Him.

Psalms 55:22 - NKJV

²² Cast your burden on the Lord, And He shall **sustain** you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.

We should cast all our burdens on the Lord, for He will sustain us!!!

- He will never suffer us to fail, or to fall.
- He will uplift us.
- He will support us.
- He will enlighten us.

Thank God for the sustaining love of Christ.

CLOSE:

Yes, God delivered His love through Jesus Christ, our Lord, that we might be saved today.

Oh, the delivering love of God.

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