

Set the Love of God Before Your Eyes

A Meditation on Psalm 26:3

בִּי-חֶסֶדְךָ לִנְגִד עֵינַי וְהִתְהַלַּכְתִּי בְּאֱמֻנָךְ

("For Your covenant-love is before my eyes, and I walk in Your truth.")

The Scriptures speak of setting the love of God before our eyes constantly. **What kind of love should we set our gaze upon?**

1. **It is an electing love.** This means that the love that we must consider is a sovereignly bestowed love. It is from God, given by God, and given by the gracious act of God. The love of God chose us before the foundation of the world to be His treasured possession. The elect of God should marvel at His love that chose them before the ages began.
2. **It is a particular love.** The love of God sufficiently and effectually saves a particular few. The love of God is not received by every single individual who has ever lived. God has a special, a particular, a saving love for His elect. God's particular love marks out those who have received the gift of regeneration by God the Spirit. The particular love that God has for His own is an adopting, friendly, family-like, tender and special love that the unbeliever will never experience.
3. **It is a saving love.** The love that God bestows upon His elect manifests itself in a saving way. God eternally saves His people. He sufficiently saves them. He effectually saves them. He sovereignly saves them. He and He alone saves them. The love that God graciously gives to undeserving rebels is an invading love. It invades the sinner's life by regenerating his heart, converting his soul, granting true faith, and imparting a new nature.
4. **It is a securing love.** God's love cannot fail. The love that God imparts to His children is as secure as a father's love for his own son. It is a love that cannot fail. It saves forever, it sanctifies progressively, it secures redemption, it guarantees glory. No sin that a believer might commit could divert God's saving love. God saves securely thus He loves His own securely.
5. **It is a sanctifying love.** Because God as a Father has saved His children and secured them for glory, God's ultimate goal and purpose in their election was for them to be holy and blameless. Those whom God selects are those whom God sanctifies. Those whom He justifies will be sanctified. Those whom the Father picked are those who will be purified. The entire process of sanctification in the life of a Christian is guided by, governed by, and providentially graced by God's love. God loves His children too much to not sanctify them.
6. **It is a faithful love.** The love of God cannot be separated from God's covenant-keeping faithfulness. That God loves means that God binds Himself to His people in an unfailing, unfaltering, unending and an unrelenting way. God cannot *not* love His people. He must love them forever. He must continue to love them forever. He must do this because His very nature is to be faithful and not to fail, come up short, break His Word or break a promise.
7. **It is a comforting love.** The love that God manifests toward His people comforts them in times of distress. It encourages them in times of weariness. It uplifts their souls when sinking in the miry clay of life's troubles. The love of God is a comforting love as a father comforts a discouraged daughter. The love that God has is akin to the comforting love of a wife who lovingly, tenderly, patiently, and warmly holds her husband when he lost his job. God is a comforting Father and possesses a love that comforts His people in times of the severest of afflictions.