

## It's the End of the World as We Know It...And I Feel Fine "Part Three – A World Changing Sacrifice"

### Series Summary

It's the end of the world as we know it. The world is changing all around us. There is an increase in corruption, hatred, racism, war, death, and disease. Is all hopeless or is there hope to be found? One birth, one life, one death marks a transformational change to our world. Find the Hope you are looking for as we discover more about where our confidence, strength, and security comes from. A four week series that leads to Easter Sunday: A World Changing Conviction, A World Changing Forgiveness, A World Changing Sacrifice, & A World Changing Victory.

### Big Idea

The Big Idea of this sermon is: ***Unconditional Love***. God sent His one and only Son to die on the cross for our sins so that He could show us the true nature and meaning of Unconditional Love. He first loved us so that we would know how to love a world and people of a world that is in opposition to us and the message of the Gospel.

### Sacrifice – God's Love Manifested Pours His Love Upon His Creation

#### BIG IDEA = Unconditional Love

- **Romans 5:5-9** – And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us. <sup>6</sup> You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!

#### Reality #1 – God's Love is Personal

- **1 John 4:9-10** – <sup>9</sup> This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.
- **Matthew 26:28** – This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.
- **2 Corinthians 5:21** – God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.
- **Key Point** – We read Romans 5 and we cannot escape the fact that God declares that Jesus Christ willingly came to this earth to die for us. His love is personal. It is not merely love that is shown to others but also to you and me.

#### Reality #2 – God's Love is Unconditional

- **Colossians 1:20** – And through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.
- **John 1:29** – The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

- **Key Point** – While we were still sinners and powerless to escape sin and escape death, God sent Christ to make the perfect sacrifice for our eternal salvation. God’s love is unconditional and He accepts me “Just as I am” and transforms me into what I have been called to be: A New Creation that brings Him honor and glory.

### Reality #3 – God’s Love Demonstrates that He Value’s Me

- **1 Peter 1:18-21** – <sup>18</sup> For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. <sup>20</sup> He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. <sup>21</sup> Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.
- **John 10:17-18** – <sup>17</sup> The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”
- **Key Point** – How do you determine the value of an object? It is only worth what someone is willing to pay. What was the price God paid for you? God demonstrates His love for us by giving His one and only Son to die on the cross for our sins.

### Questions to Consider

- *How has the love and sacrifice of Christ changed your life?*
- *In what ways does the love and sacrifice of Christ compel you to live for Him in today? Give some examples of how you live for Him today.*

### Memory Verse

**Romans 5:8** – But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

### BIG Challenge

Go out and share the love of Christ in a practical way this week by sacrificing something of value to you in order to serve another in need! *Give us your testimony about this.*

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