

## **Limitless Riches of Christ: Boundless Love**

**Ephesians 3:14–19 (NKJV)** For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height— to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

**This sets before us another expression of the limitless riches of Christ.**

That you may be “rooted and grounded in love...”

“Know the love of Christ which passes knowledge...”

**We are delving into the depths of Christ’s love.**

The fullness of God is related to this expression of Christ’s boundless love.

In this text, we are rooted and grounded in love, the love of Christ.

**Our God is very passionate.**

**The Bible teaches us “God is love.”**

His zeal or intense emotion is expressed most clearly to us in His love.

The love of God is the driving force behind the passion of the Christ.

When we become fully rooted and grounded in His love, we may be able to comprehend what is the width and length and depth and height— to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge.

**Ephesians 2:4-5 (NKJV)** But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His **great love** with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

**God’s passion for us is demonstrated to us in the passion of the Christ.**

Compare Ephesians 2:1 with verse 4 to see the depth of God’s love for us.

**Ephesians 2:1 NKJV** And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins,  
**How did He make us alive, or give us life?**

**John 3:14-16 (NKJV)** And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

**The incarnation of Christ is an integral part of the manifestation of the love of God.**

God has revealed His love in various ways.

His watchful care and supply show His lovingkindness.

The clearest expression of God’s love is revealed in the birth, life, and sacrifice of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**Romans 5:8 NKJV** But **God demonstrates His own love** toward us, in that while we were still sinners, **Christ died** for us.

**1 John 4:9 NKJV** In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.

**The incarnation of Christ was the unmistakable expression of the love of God.**

Jesus was anointed to demonstrate the extent of God’s love, thought, and plan.

**With this expression of His love, God sent His Son into this world.**

The entrance of Christ into the world was an unveiling and revealing of the depth of God's love.

We cannot know the depth of God's love without the revelation of His Son.

*"For God so loved the world that He gave His Son."*

This is a tremendous testimony of width and length and depth and height of the love of God.

The extent of God's love is measured by the greatness of His giving.

**To comprehend the width and length and depth and height, we must be rooted and grounded in the love of Christ.**

***Rooted suggests the plant world.***

A tree must get its roots deep in the soil to have nourishment and stability.

Our neighbor was attempting to dress up their property.

A tree in their back yard had one large root that was mostly above ground.

The root was headed toward their patio and was beginning to crack the cement.

In an attempt to save his patio, he cut the root and removed it.

I suppose he thought that the tree had a larger root system.

He was surprised the next morning when his tree was laying on the house.

There were no other roots strong enough to support the tree.

**We must have spiritual roots that go deep into the love of Christ.**

Our roots into Christ and His love introduce us to the life and substance of His fullness.

**Psalm 1:1–3 (NKJV)** Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

**Where do you get your nourishment and stability?**

Make sure that you are rooted down into the rivers and life of God's love.

If we are going to survive the spiritual heat and drought that is in this world, we must go deep into the love of Christ.

When we go deep, we will not only be sustained, we will be filled with His blessing and strength that produces fruit.

This is where our joy, peace, contentment, and love come from.

***Being rooted and grounded produces necessary things in our lives.***

**Ephesians 3:19 (NKJV)** to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

"All the fullness of God"(vs19) and "strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man" (vs16) are associated with "rooted and grounded in love"(vs17).

(Ephesians 3:16-19)

Being "rooted and grounded in the love of Christ" causes us to be "filled with all the fullness of God" and "strengthened with might."

***The only way a tree gets nourishment and strength to stand is by going deep.***

If you want to be strong in the Lord, you must go deep into the love of Christ.

This is the place where we get filled up and strengthened.

The power of the Spirit is given "according to the riches of His glory."

We must be filled with His love.

**Ephesians 3:17 (NKJV)** That Christ may  dwell  in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love...

“**Dwell**” literally means, “to settle down and feel at home, to live in.”

Your roots must be soaked in Christ’s love.

***Paul is praying for an increased spiritual depth.***

This spiritual depth is into the love of God.

Nowhere is the love of God more known than in Jesus Christ.

God is revealing to us the depth of His love for us in His Son.

When Paul was telling the church to be rooted and grounded in love, he was telling us to be rooted and grounded in Christ.

**Love is the atmosphere that should dominate the church.**

The love of Christ in its immeasurable scope should be the substance we are rooted and grounded in.

When we are rooted and grounded in the love of Christ, we produce fruit that testifies of Christ in us.

The fruit testifies of the root.

**Ephesians 5:2 (NKJV)** And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

**Watch this verse closely.**

**Christ’s love for us caused Him to give Himself for us.**

That offering and sacrifice was a sweet-smelling aroma to God.

**2 Corinthians 2:14-15 NKJV** Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place. For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing.

This is no small undertaking.

When we are rooted and grounded in the love of Christ, we will demonstrate God’s love in every situation.

The fragrance of Christ comes out of our lives.

**When we go deep into the love of Christ, we begin comprehending how wide, long, deep and high it is.**

This goes beyond a surface expression of Christ.

We begin searching out the fullness of God’s love.

This is where we get the power we need for living.

This is what holds us up and gives us strength.

This is the abundant life of God working in us.

It is the life source of believers.

This is the substance behind what God is doing in us.

**His power that works in us is comprehended in the depth of His love.**

This is where miracles and life come from.

This is where grace comes from.

This is the source of the flow of the Holy Spirit in us.

The fountainhead of God’s power comes through His love.

**We comprehend the boundless love of Christ by being rooted and grounded in His**

**love.**

**Ephesians 3:17–20 (NKJV)** that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height— to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us...

**To help us understand the fullness of the love of Christ, we need to know that God's love flows to us through Christ.**

**The love of God was not caused by Christ's death.**

Christ was given and died because God loves us.

God loved us so much that He gave His Son to die.

God satisfied the claims of the broken law with His blood.

**God's love comes to us through Jesus.**

All of the fullness of God's love comes to us through Jesus.

**God loves everyone!**

He loves everyone, not just the religious and the good.

He loves people who love Him.

He loves those who do not love Him.

He loves the unlovely and the unloving.

He loves the unbelieving and the obstinate.

He loves the selfish and the greedy.

He loves the spiteful and the vengeful.

He loves the obedient and the disobedient.

**This is hard to take in.**

**God loves the world.**

However, we come to realize the depth of the fullness of God's love in direct proportion to our abiding in Jesus.

**Ephesians 2:4-6 NKJV** But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

He included you.

He did it by love.

All of eternity can never exhaust His love.

It is as broad as the race of man.

It claims all souls.

It is timeless and changeless.

It cannot be exhausted by our actions or demands.

**You can never know the fullness of His love until you are rooted and grounded in His love.**