

March 3, 2024

ETERNAL LOVE

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. John 13:1 (ESV)

Can you imagine what it was like for Jesus to grow in awareness of who He was and what was required of Him? I think about that when I read the Gospels. When did He know the Old Testament spoke of Him? Did that boy who lingered in the temple know that He knew God better than the priests did? At His baptism, did He know what His Father meant when God called Him His beloved Son in whom He was well pleased? What was He thinking and feeling as He approached Jerusalem during Holy Week, and how did He know His hour was coming? And what drove Him to choose His disciples and invest His love in those particular men? How did His love for them play out? These are big questions, and perhaps we'll never know the answers.

One thing we can know is that Jesus accomplished what He was supposed to and gave those He loved everything they needed to go forward after He left them. We can know what He accomplished in His suffering and death because God raised Him from the dead, and we can know that He provided for His friends because the Church is still growing after 2000 years.

In our lives, we can know that just as He loved His own who were in the world, He will love all of us who are His own until the end.

Prayer: Father, thank You for sending Jesus to save us from our sins. Jesus, thank You for living a life of perfect obedience to the Father and loving us eternally. May Your Spirit grow us into Your likeness so we will follow the Father in all our hours and love until the end...of forever. Amen

Chris Hubacek