

**A Never Stopping, Never Giving Up, Unbreaking, Always and Forever Love**  
**John 13:1**

***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. (ESV)***

**Main Point**  
**Jesus Christ loves his people (us) to the end.**

**One Verse - Two Points:**

- 1. Context: The Time Has Come (13:1a)**
  - 2. Content: Jesus Loves His People (Us) to the End (13:1b)**
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**1. Context: The Time Has Come (13:1a)**

***Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father,***

- Now before the Feast of the Passover***
- when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father***

**Kent Hughes:** As one reads through the Gospel of John, the shadow of the cross grows **longer** and **darker** until now the reader stands at the foot of the cross on the evening before the Crucifixion. In just a few short hours (somewhere between fifteen and eighteen hours) our Lord would be suspended between the sky and earth as the **sin-bearer of mankind**. Before the sun set again he would breathe his last tortured breath.

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**2. Content: Jesus Loves His People (Us) to the End (13:1b)**

***having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.***

- Subject: He [Jesus]**

**1 John 4:7-8, 16** <sup>[7]</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>[8]</sup> Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

<sup>[6]</sup> So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

**b. Verb: loved (having loved and loved to the end)**

- **CS Lewis ("Four Loves"):** Agape love: "divine love characterized by sacrifice in the pursuit of another person's good."
- a pure, willful, sacrificial love that **intentionally** desires another's highest good
- a sacrificial love that **voluntarily suffers** inconvenience, discomfort, and even death for the benefit of another without expecting anything in return

**1 Cor 13:4-8a, 13** <sup>[4]</sup> Love [agape] is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>[5]</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>[6]</sup> it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. <sup>[7]</sup> Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. <sup>[8a]</sup> Love never ends.

<sup>[3]</sup> So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

**1 John 4:9-10** <sup>[9]</sup> In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>[10]</sup> In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

**John 3:16** <sup>16</sup> "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

**c. Object: Them, His own who were in the world**

**John 15:13** Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

**Ephesians 5:1-2a** <sup>[1]</sup> Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. <sup>[2a]</sup> And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us.

**Ephesians 2:4-5** <sup>[4]</sup> But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>[5]</sup> even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.

**Romans 5:6-8** <sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—<sup>8</sup> but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**d. Modifiers**

## 1) Having loved

## 2) To the end

**Tim Keller:** "We must say to ourselves something like this: 'Well, when Jesus looked down from the cross, he didn't think "I am giving myself to you because you are so attractive to me." No, he was in agony, and he looked down at us - denying him, abandoning him, and betraying him - and **in the greatest act of love in history, he STAYED.** He said, "Father, forgive them, they don't know what they are doing." **He loved us, not because we were lovely to him, but to make us lovely.**"

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## Conclusion & Final Application

**Believers: (don't include this header on the slide)**

### **Final Application:**

- 1) **Rest in and enjoy his love.**
- 2) **Proclaim his love.**
- 3) **Love others as Jesus has loved you.**

**John 4:7** *Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.*

**Unbelievers (don't include this header on the slide)**

**JSB, Sally Lloyd-Jones (Ch. 3, after the fall/Adam & Eve's sin)** God loved his children too much to let the story end there. Even though he knew he would suffer, God had a plan — a magnificent dream. One day, he would get his children back. One day, he would make the world their perfect home again. And one day, he would wipe away every tear from their eyes. **You see, no matter what, in spite of everything, God would love his children — with a Never Stopping, Never Giving Up, Unbreaking, Always and Forever Love.**