

# The Tenacity of God's Love

Where else but in worship can we step into a time machine, and remember where we have come from, gain insight into who we now are, and be reminded of where we are going? A movie grabs your attention for two hours, and as you exit the theater, real life sets in. As we meet together with the Holy Spirit present, we recall who we were, we rejoice in who we now are in Christ, and we anticipate the future that is guaranteed for us as blood-bought saints.

Listen to Jonathan Edwards in his preface to **A History of the Work of Redemption**.

"Man's body was ruined, by the fall it became subject to death. The design of God was, to restore it from this ruin, and not only to deliver it from death in the resurrection, but to deliver it from mortality itself, in making it like unto Christ's glorious body. The world was ruined, as to man, as effectually as if it had been reduced to chaos again. All heaven and earth were overthrown. But the design of God was, to restore all, and as it were to create a new heaven and a new earth. "Behold, I create new heavens, and a new earth; and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind." Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens, and a new earth, where all is righteousness." **Jonathan Edwards**

## Think About His Love

### LEADER:

Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

### CONGREGATION:

Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits-

### LEADER:

who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,

### CONGREGATION:

who redeems your life from the pit  
and crowns you with love and compassion,

**LEADER:**

who satisfies your desires with good things  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

**CONGREGATION:**

The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.

**LEADER:**

He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel:

**CONGREGATION:**

The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

**LEADER:**

He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever;

**CONGREGATION:**

he does not treat us as our sins deserve  
or repay us according to our iniquities.

**LEADER:**

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his love for those who fear him;

**CONGREGATION:**

as far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

**LEADER:**

As a father has compassion on his children,  
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;

**CONGREGATION:**

for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.

**LEADER:**

As for man, his days are like grass, he flourishes like a flower of the field;  
the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more.

**CONGREGATION:**

But from everlasting to everlasting

the LORD's love is with those who fear him,  
and his righteousness with their children's children-

**LEADER:**

with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts.

**CONGREGATION:**

The LORD has established his throne in heaven,  
and his kingdom rules over all.

**LEADER:**

Praise the LORD, you his angels,  
you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word.

**CONGREGATION:**

Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will.

**LEADER:**

Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion.

**CONGREGATION:**

Praise the LORD, O my soul.

## **Shout For Joy To The Lord**

### **His Love Endures**

#### **PRAYER**

Lord, just like you have with Israel, you have shown us kindness, mercy and compassion. You delight to lavish grace on us. (Is. 30:18) As soon as we cry out for help, you hear and you answer. (Is. 30:19) And you do not keep a record of sins. If you did, none of us could stand before you. Because of Jesus, we can enter in to the Most Holy Place with confidence. We can draw near to you with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, for our hearts have been sprinkled, cleansing us from the weight of a guilty conscience. (Hebrews 10:19-22) Thank you that with you there is forgiveness. (Psalm 130:3)

### **There Is None Like You**

## PRAYER

O the immensity of your mercy, Father God! How profound the wisdom of your purpose! Your decrees overwhelm our puny ability to understand and your ways defeat every attempt to comprehend! We are in awe of you, Lord God. Who can see reality from your perspective? No one. Whom have you ever turned to for advice? That will never happen. No one ever provides you with anything, you will never be in anyone's debt. Instead, we are in your debt.

## There Is None Like You

“Amazing love, how can it be – that thou me God should die for me. C.H. Spurgeon a parliament in heaven. The angels are assembled, the question is proposed to them - ‘Cherubim and seraphim.....Here is a question which I condescend to offer for your consideration. Man has sinned, there is no way for his pardon but by someone suffering and paying blood for blood. Who shall it be?’

I can conceive that there was silence throughout the august assembly. Gabriel spoke not....he sat still. And there, the mightiest of the mighty, those who could shake a world if God would will it, sat still, because they all felt powerless to accomplish redemption.

I do not conceive that one of them would have ventured to hope that **GOD HIMSELF** would assume flesh and die. I do not think it could have entered even into angelic thought to conceive that the mighty Maker of the skies should bow his awful head and sing into a grave.

And when the Son of God from his throne, spoke to them and said, ‘Principalities and powers - I will become flesh, I will veil this Godhead of mine in robes of mortal clay, I will die!’ I think I see the angels for once astonished. They had seen worlds created, they had seen the earth, like a spark from the incandescent mass of unformed matter, hammered from the anvil of Omnipotence, and spinning off into space, and yet they had not wondered. But on this occasion I conceive that they ceased not to marvel. ‘What! Wilt thou die, O Word! Creator! Master! Infinite! Almighty! Wilt thou become a man and die?’ ‘Yes,’ said the Savior, ‘I will.’

Should we not be astonished, mortal men? Do you not wonder? What, will you not marvel? The hosts of heaven are still wondering. Though it is many an age since they heard it, they have not yet ceased to admire, and do not you begin to marvel yet? Shall the theme which stirs the marvel of the seraph not move your hearts? That God himself should become man, and then should die for you!

**The Wonderful Cross**

**OFFERING**  
**Amazing Grace**

**SERMON**

**There's A Wideness In God's Mercy**