

# Never Been Unloved

#3187 241103C

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Romans 5:8 *while we were yet sinners*  
Hebrews 2:17 *He had to be made like us*  
John 13:34 *That ye love one another*  
John 13:35 *By this shall all men know*  
Romans 3:23 *For all have sinned*  
Romans 6:23 *The wages of sin is death*  
Luke 6:36 *Be merciful, just as your Father*  
Luke 15:18 *I will set out and go back*  
1 John 4:20 *If anyone says, 'I love God'*  
John 14:21 *He who has my Word & obeys*

1 Without question we have been unfaithful, unworthy, unrighteous, unmerciful, unteachable, and unwilling—but we have *Never Been Unloved*.

2 The evidence of God's love is NIV Hebrews 2:17 "*He had to be made like [us AV] in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.*"

3 We think of all the problems and broken hearts in this world because of feeling unloved or unwanted. It goes back to not knowing or not accepting Jesus' words AV John 13:34 "*That ye love one another; as I have loved you.*"

4 Too many times we have *not* acted in *love* toward someone, but we have *talked* about them—and maybe *upset* them and *offended* them.

5 How much better our world and our relationships with others would be if we showed a little more *love* toward them.

6 Love brings out the *best* in people who just want to be *loved* and *appreciated*. Acting from love is our witness for Jesus—

7 AV John 13:35 "*By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.*" That *choice* makes us a *follower* of Christ.

8 It seems so *easy* to love those we *want* to love, but so difficult to love those we rather *not*.

9 Satan separates—Jesus joins. The love of God in our heart brings people together. Jesus loved us unconditionally by taking our place on the cross.

10 We place many people in the category of *bad* and few in the *good* because our love is conditional—given to those we think worthy of love.

11 AV Romans 5:7 "*For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.*" And we know that 8 "*while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.*"

12 We often consider our sins just mistakes and not done to hurt anyone—so, they are not really *that* serious. We think that only *flagrant* disobedience to God's will makes one a sinner.

13 But that is not right because—AV Romans 3:23 "*All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.*" Everyone is a sinner with no exceptions!

14 The only One who never sinned is the One who loves everyone enough to die for them even when they are unworthy.

15 Often, we have been *unfaithful, unworthy, unrighteous, unmerciful, unteachable, and unwilling*—but through it all we have *never been unloved*, so we can only say, *Thank you, Jesus, for loving me when I am so unworthy of Your love!*

16 Even thinking our sins are *minor* and not *serious*, we *now* know Romans 6:23 that "*The wages of sin is death*"—period!

17 That means the death sentence on anyone guilty of sin—and we are *all* guilty because we have *all* sinned.

18 If we still think that only *serious* sins or *deliberate* crimes warrant the death penalty, we need to re-read "*For the wages of sin is death.*"

19 Not the wages of *serious* sins but the wages of all *sin* call for the death penalty.

20 If God's love would be shown only to those who *deserve* it—no one would *receive* it! Not one!

21 The hope after *knowing* that AV John 3:16 "*God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son,*" is that pardon available to anyone who repents and receives God's forgiveness by faith.

22 We have *Never Been Unloved* because of God loves us unconditionally.

23 We often fail to extend love to those we think do not deserve it—yet the words keep coming back to remind—"While we were *still* sinners, *Christ died for us.*"

24 The hymn #57 says it best—*And can it be that I should gain, An interest in the Savior's blood? Died He for me, who caused His pain?*

25 *For me, who Him to death pursued? Amazing love! How can it be, that Thou, my God, should die for me?*

26 We have been *unfaithful* to loved ones and friends, and we have been *unfaithful* to the One who gave His *life* to save our *soul*. But Jesus still tells us to love one another AV John 15:12 "*as I have loved you.*"

27 We are *unworthy* to receive anything from God, but He still pours out His blessings on us in that unworthy condition.

28 We are *thankless* and *ungrateful*, but we have *never been unloved*. We have been *unrighteous* and have responded in an un-Christlike way to many.

**29** Hebrews 10:38 says “*My righteous one will live by faith,*” but we still treat others in an *unrighteous* manner.

**30** All too often we have been *unfaithful* to God’s Word, *unworthy* of His forgiveness, and *unrighteous* toward many.

**31** Even though we are commanded to Luke 6:36 “*Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful,*” we have been *unmerciful*.

**32** To show *mercy* toward someone when they treat us in an un-Christlike way, is the mercy we want them to show us if we fail to act kindly toward them.

**33** We have been *undesirable* of God’s love and mercy, but He still receives us when we come to Him in true repentance and confess our sins to Him. God still loves us in spite of our failures to love others.

**34** God the Father is waiting for us with open arms every time we realize the wrongs we have done, admit them to ourselves, confess them before God in prayer, and come back to Him in humility of spirit.

**35** The Prodigal Son realized his mistake and knew how *unworthy* he was to receive anything from his father.

**36** He says NIV Luke 15:18 “*I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.*”

**37** The son thought: *I have been unworthy, I have been unfaithful, and I have been unreachable.* He knew that he was *unteachable* and *unwise*, but he didn’t realize he had *never been unloved*.

**38** 20 “*But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son.*”

**39** The father had been waiting for his son, as God is waiting for us to come back to Him. We

should say to our *heavenly* Father what the prodigal son to his *earthly* father.

**40** 21-23 “*Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.*

**41** *But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate.’”*

**42** The prodigal son was *unworthy, unwise, unteachable,* and *unreachable,* but as soon as he realized his mistake—and as soon as we realize our sins and wrong attitudes—the process of change and restoration begins.

**43** We have been *unemotional* toward God’s Word, but Galatians 4:18 says “*It is fine to be zealous, provided the purpose is good.*”

**44** In spite of our failures to *be zealous, earnest,* and showing *emotion* for God’s truth, we have *never been unloved,* since “*God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us*” Romans 5:8.

**45** We have been *undecided* in spiritual matters, even though we *knew* God’s Word and how we should decide.

**46** We have sung, *I have decided to follow Jesus* but have not always done that when tempted to stray from the Word.

**47** The world may say we are *unqualified,* but God looks at the heart and says we *are* qualified in His strength as “*God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong*” 1 Corinthians 1:27.

**48** We should pray: *Dear Jesus, enable me to see, the sacrifice You made for me, to show that I have never been unloved. It’s because of You, and all that You went through, I know that I have never been unloved.*

**49** As we prepare to commemorate the Lord’s Supper, we think—*Have I always shown love to others? Have I tried to understand what they may be going through?*

**50** Jesus says: “*He who has my commandments and obeys them—he it is who loves me*” John 14:21 WEY.

**51** It is *so easy* to love Jesus—He is *so worthy* of our love, but 1 John 4:20 NIV “*If anyone says, ‘I love anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen.’*”

**52** It is no use saying we love God, but continue to resent, criticize, and insult others. If we see ourselves in that we need to repent as *now* is the time to do that.

**53** God knows every *heart* and He loves every *soul*—we have *never been unloved.* If we will come back to Him in humility, He accepts us as the Prodigal Son was accepted by *his* father.

**54** Hymn #159—*Was it for crimes that I had done, He groaned upon the tree? Amazing pity! Grace unknown! And love beyond degree.*

**55** *But drops of grief can ne’er repay, The debt of love I owe. Here, Lord, I give myself away, ‘Tis all that I can do.’*

**56** Our prayer: *Dear Lord, enable me to see, the sacrifice You made for me, to show that I have never been unloved. It’s because of You, and all that You went through, I know that I have never been unloved!*

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