

Welcome to Calvary Chapel of Hilo

Pastor Ron Brav 933.1037 – ronbrav@gmail.com – www.calvarychapelhilo.org
885 Kilauea Avenue, Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Sunday Morning - 9:00 A.M. "**SO MUCH to BE THANKFUL FOR**" Ephesians 1:15-23
Next Week – "**GOD'S SAVING GRACE**" Ephesians 2:1-10

Tuesday Night Study

6:30 PM Bladen's House - 16-2064 Macadamia Dr. Pahoa, 96778 (352) 665-3251

Thursday Morning Studies

9:30 A.M. – 1 Samuel – At the Church

THE LOVE OF GOD

Christianity is really the only religion that sets forth the Supreme Being as Love. The gods of the heathen are angry, hateful beings, and are in constant need of appeasing.

Not only is God able to do according to His eternal purpose, but His love as a supreme motive will never fail. "Having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end [without end]" (John 13:1). "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life" (Rom. 5:8-11).

As He loved the unsaved enough to give His Son to die for them, even when they were "yet without strength" and "enemies," "much more then, being now justified by his blood" and "reconciled," they shall be "saved from wrath through him," and "saved by his life." Such is the unchangeable love of God. "Much more" than His love for the "enemies," which drew out the unspeakable gift of His Son, is His love for His own who are now "justified" and "reconciled." So, also, there is a boundless assurance as to the future: "saved from wrath through him," which points to the unchangeable position of the believer "in Christ," and "saved by his life" which points to the living presence and ministry of Christ in glory. With such provisions, God's love can know no disappointment concerning those whom He has saved in grace.

Lewis Sperry Chafer, *Grace: An Exposition of God's Marvelous Gift*

GOD'S GREATNESS

Thomas Aquinas, the famous medieval theologian, created one of the greatest intellectual achievements of Western civilization in his *Summa Theologica*. It's a massive work: thirty-eight treatises, three thousand articles, ten thousand objections. Thomas tried to gather into one coherent whole all of truth. What an undertaking: anthropology, science, ethics, psychology, political theory, and theology, all under God.

On December 6, 1273, Thomas abruptly stopped his work. While celebrating Mass in the Chapel of St. Thomas, he caught a glimpse of eternity, and suddenly he knew that all his efforts to describe God fell so far short that he decided never to write again.

When his secretary, Reginald, tried to encourage him to do more writing, he said, "Reginald, I can do no more. Such things have been revealed to me that all I have written seems as so much straw."

Even the greatest human minds cannot fathom the greatness of God.

Edward K. Rowell, ed., *1001 Quotes, Illustrations, and Humorous Stories: For Preachers, Teachers, and Writers*,

THANKFULNESS

In her classic autobiography *The Hiding Place*, Corrie ten Boom tells of the time she and her sister were forced to take off all their clothes during Nazi inspections at a death camp. Miss ten Boom stood in line feeling forsaken and defiled. Suddenly she remembered that Jesus hung naked on the cross. Struck with wonder and worship during that seemingly forsaken moment, ten Boom leaned forward and whispered to her sister, "Betsie, they took his clothes, too." Betsie gasped and said, "Oh, Corrie, and I never thanked him." Thanksgiving does not require bounty—just recognition of what our Savior has already done.

Raymond McHenry, *McHenry's Quips, Quotes and Other Notes*, (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson