

## What Jesus the Christ has done for us 1

‘Jesus loves me! this I know  
for the Bible tells me so;  
little ones to him belong;  
they are weak but he is strong.’

[Anna Bartlett Warner (1820 - 1915)]

### But as Christians do we realise the wonder of this fact?

Any Christian resembles a little child: trusts; is weak; needs to be loved.

Jesus the Christ has **loved us** from all eternity.

God in Jesus the Christ loves all mankind [cf. Proverb 8:31] but he has special love for those he has chosen, from eternity, to enter his kingdom.

[cf. Ephesians 1:4 - 5; Jeremiah 1:5]

As we saw during our studies in Romans, God’s choices are sovereign acts. **“Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”** [cf. Romans 9:13; Malachi 1:2 - 3] His choice of you and me, of all Christians is not based on our merits. By nature we are no better than anyone else. He has predestined us to be members of his family, to be his children, and co-heirs with Christ in his kingdom.

[cf. John 1:12 - 13; Ephesians 2:8 - 10; Romans 8:17]

You might feel that God is being unfair. BUT the true wonder is not why does the One who is love not show this special love to everyone. The true wonder is that he loves *anyone* in such a manner! Just think of your own sin, then multiply it billions of time, and you are only getting close to the sin of the whole human race that God in Jesus the Christ bore on that cross at Calvary! So shamefully sinful are we that it is amazing that God in Jesus the Christ should love *any* of us!

Paul referred to himself as the **‘worst of sinners’** [cf. 1 Timothy 1:16], and if you and I are honest we would agree that at times we share that designation. Yet we can still say, with awe, wonder and gratitude, “Jesus loves me! this I know.” We are loved along with the Samaritan woman [cf. John 4:1 - 42]; Zaccheus [cf. Luke 19:1 - 10]; and the thief on the cross [cf. Luke 23:38 - 43].

‘And can it be that I should gain  
an interest in the Saviour’s blood?

Died He for me, who caused His pain?

For me, who Him to death pursued?

Amazing love! how can it be

that Thou, my God shouldst die for me!’

[Charles Wesley (1707 - 88)]

Yours in Christ,

Douglas