

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School—an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing a series of studies on The Cosmic Conflict. Today's topic: MOTIVATED BY LOVE.

1. A revelation of the immeasurable love of God

- a) What is the basis of God's kingdom? (love and freedom of choice). What is the basis of Satan's kingdom? (selfishness and force).
- b) What can we learn about God's kingdom from the following verses? Luke 19:41-44, Matthew 23:37-38, John 11:33-36, Mark 10:13-16
- c) Where do you see love in action in the life and ministry of Jesus?
- d) How was the love of Jesus revealed in His prophecy regarding the destruction of Jerusalem? Matthew 24:15-20
- e) What was the blessed outcome for Christians when they obeyed the instructions of Jesus regarding the destruction of Jerusalem?

2. Loved in times of hardship and trial

- a) What were some of the hardships faithful followers of God endured, both in Old Testament and New Testament times? Hebrews 11:35-38, Acts 5:17-18, 8:3, 14:19, Revelation 2:10, etc.
- b) What lessons can we learn from the attitude of the apostles after they were beaten and commanded not to speak in the name of Jesus? Acts 5:40-42
- c) What lessons can we learn from Stephen the deacon, the first Christian martyr? Acts 6:8-15, 7:54-60
- d) What assurance do we have of God's love even when we are facing trials and persecution? Romans 8:35, 38-39

- e) What other promises from God's Word give us comfort when we are facing hardship and trials as followers of Jesus? Isaiah 41:10, Revelation 1:17-18, Psalm 46:1, Matthew 28:20, etc.

3. Reflecting the love of Jesus

- a) Where do you see the love of Jesus revealed in the following stories? Acts 2:44-47, 3:6-9, 6:1-7
- b) What lessons can we learn from the story Jesus told in Matthew 25:31-40?
- c) Why is showing love to one another a sign that we are genuine disciples of Jesus? John 13:34-35, 1 John 4:19-21
- d) What are some practical ways we can show the love of God to those around us in the midst of this great controversy between good and evil?
- e) Share a time when you witnessed the love of Jesus in action.
- f) What can we do to help our families, our churches, our communities become a clearer revelation of the immeasurable, unending love of God?

