

Extraordinary Love

March 24

Read: Mark 15:33-37

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At his baptism Jesus heard the voice of his Father declaring his love for his one and only Son and how pleased he was with him. What a beautiful picture that is! Imagine the Father beaming as only a father can when he is so pleased with his child. It was the beginning of his Son's ministry and quite possibly its crowning moment.

It is now the end of his Son's ministry. His Son is hanging on the cross crying out in anguish, wondering why his Father had abandoned him. How could this have happened?

Is it possible that the Father loved someone else more than his own Son? In fact he loved us so much that he had sent his Son to pay our debt.

As I write this, my own three-year-old son is playing next to me. He is developing his own personality and it is a joy to see him grow. Indeed, I love him and he brings me so much pleasure. I look into his eyes and I know that I could not love someone else so much that I would send my one and only son to be tortured and murdered. Yet God the Father did just that. What agony the Father must have felt to see his beloved Son hanging there! How he must have wept!

I think the only thing that could cause more pain to the Father is if we reject this act of love from him.

Prayer: Dear Father, I fall on my knees before you. I am in awe of your love, that you would send your only Son to pay my debt. It is with utter humbleness that I come before you and accept your most gracious of gifts. AMEN.
