

Those He Loves
Revelation 3:19

Introduction:

- A. “Just give me Jesus!” We live in a world where people want to love Jesus but not the church.
 - 1. Dan Kimball wrote a popular book entitled, They Like Jesus, But Not the Church (2007).
 - 2. David Murrow wrote a book called, Why Men Hate Going to Church (2011).
- B. The church is made up of flawed people. It’s easy to point out the faults of the church.
 - 1. Ex: They make decisions we do not agree with or support.
 - 2. Ex: They believe things we do not believe.
 - 3. Ex: The people are just a bunch of hypocrites who do not practice what they preach.
- C. We should love the church despite its faults.

Jesus Loves the Church

- A. Even when offering a scathing rebuke, Jesus still mentioned His love for the church (Rev. 3:19).
- B. The church belongs to Jesus (Matt. 16:18; Col. 1:18).
- C. Jesus loved the church so much that He was willing to die for her (Eph. 5:25-29).

Ways to Show Our Love for the Church

- A. Be patient with the Church (II Thess. 1:3; Col. 3:12-13).
- B. Speak highly of the Church (Eph. 4:29 – 31).
- C. Pray for the Church (Phil. 1:3-5; Col 1:3-5; I Thess. 1:2-3).
- D. Don’t give up on the Church (2 Cor. 4:16-18).

Conclusion:

- A. The church is made up of individuals who are flawed.
- B. However, this is no excuse for any one of us to criticize or beat the church down.
- C. Those who are Christians must do everything they can to demonstrate their love for the church to the world around them.