

# HOW BIG IS GOD'S LOVE?

Years ago, a man was traveling by ship with his young daughter across the ocean.

Earlier that particular Sunday, he had preached a sermon about God's love. It had been a very difficult service to preach, because he was newly widowed.

He was standing against the rail of the ship, looking out at the vast and magnificent ocean, when his daughter asked him if God loved them as much as they had loved her late mother.

"Of course, He does," answered her father. "There is absolutely nothing bigger or more powerful and all-consuming than God's love for us. It's the biggest thing there is!"

The little girl pressed on for more information, wanting to know exactly how big God's love is.

Finally, her father, with great tenderness, said, "Well, look across the sea as far as you can. Look up and down and all around. God's love stretches around to cover all of that; above, the blue sky, and deeper than the deepest part of the ocean underneath us."

The little girl pondered that thought for a minute and replied, "And to think, Daddy, we're right in the middle of it."

And we are. We're right in the middle of God's love. We don't need a miracle to tell us that. Most of us have known God's love all our lives. Certainly, that is not to say that miracles do not occur. They do – to the eyes of faith.

One of my father's favorite songs was *The Love of God*. The song was written by Frederick M. Lehman, who emigrated from Germany to America with his family when he was a child. Here are a couple of stanzas:

*The love of God is greater far ... Than tongue or pen can ever tell ... It goes beyond the highest star ... And reaches to the lowest hell ... The guilty pair, bowed down with care ... God gave His Son to win ... His erring child He reconciled ... And pardoned from his sin.*

*Could we with ink the ocean fill ... And were the skies of parchment made ... Were ev'ry stalk on earth a quill ... And ev'ry man a scribe by trade ... To write the love of God above ... Would drain the ocean dry ... Nor could the scroll contain the whole ... Tho' stretched from sky to sky.*

*And the refrain: Oh, love of God, how rich and pure ... How measureless and strong ... It shall forever more endure ... The saints' and angels' song.*

(more)

How big is God's love? As the little girl said, we are "right in the middle of it." Let that be an encouragement to you today.

*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3:16 KJV).*

– Beecher Hunter

