THE PROOF IS CLEAR---GOD DOES LOVE US

 How can there be any doubt that God does love us. The proof is overwhelming. And yet, who gets the blame much of the time when things go wrong. Didn’t it start already when Adam and Eve first sinned? Genesis 3. God said to Adam who had hidden from God in the garden: “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” The man said: “The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree and I ate.”

 Then the Lord God said to the woman: “What is this you have done?” The woman said: “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

 Adam and Eve are both saying that what they did was God’s fault, not their own. Since Eve and the serpent were both made by God, the fault lies with him.

 Was it a loving God who brought the flood on the whole earth, drowning all life except the 8 people and animals in the ark?

 Was it the action of a loving God to say to the disobedient people of Israel that all who grumbled against God, not believing that they could defeat the Canaanites, would die in the desert?

 How could a loving God let His chosen people Israel be totally defeated so that the 12 tribes no longer exist? In all these examples we see a holy God who will not tolerate sin; and a gracious and merciful God who says, “I do not desire the death of the sinner but that he turn from his sin and live.”

 And how about us today? If God loves us so much, how come there is so much suffering, bloodshed and war? Isn’t God able to do something?

 How can God allow innocent children to be killed while they are just going to school?

Sometimes all the bad things going on in the world just seems too much. Every day brings more bad news. It makes you want to just turn it off.

But, I say, how dare anyone lay any blame at the doorstep of our heavenly Father and loving God!! God acted, putting into place His divine plan of salvation right after sin came to earth.

It is mankind himself who is to blame for all the evil in the world, egged on by the old evil foe, Satan, the fallen angel whose objective is to destroy the works of God. In his letter to the Romans, the Apostle Paul pronounces judgment on the whole human race saying in Chapter 3: “None is righteous, no not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. Rather, Jesus came to seek and to save the lost.

Here is what our loving God has done. He created the universe, to include the planet upon which we live.

 He made man and woman, giving us incredible bodies, which, for the Believer in Jesus Christ, will be a glorified, a perfect body, on the day when all believers will be ushered into their heavenly home, there to live for all eternity. Our loving God will do this, just as He has promised.

 He has given us the intellect to invent, to create things to improve our lives, to build space vehicles to allow man to walk on the moon and to dream of even bigger things.

 He has forgiven our sins, not because we are so good and deserved it but by sending His only Son Jesus Christ into the world as a man to suffer and die in our place; paying the price, death, for our sins. But rising from the grave to take away the power of death from the devil.

 We are saved by the mercy and grace of our loving God who will, by the way, not tolerate evil or wickedness in man to whom He has given the possibility of salvation thru belief in His Son.

 Our text today spells it out very clearly. “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.”

 Jesus says in John 12: “I did not come into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world.” To the woman caught in the very act of adultery, Jesus said to her accusers: “Let the one who has no sin be the first to throw a stone.” None were thrown and Jesus said to the woman: “Neither do I condemn you. Go and sin no more.”

 He did this because He also says in John 16: “I have said these things to you, that, in Me, you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But, take heart, I have overcome the world.” Meaning, Jesus has overcome the power of the devil, the ruler of this world.

 So, what does all this mean? As we look at the cross upon which our dear Savior died, we see the proof of God’s great love for all of us. The evil and suffering will one day be gone because the cause and source of all the bad things in this world will be cast into the lake of fire along with all who refuse to put their trust in the only Savior of mankind---Jesus Christ.

 God does love us----the Cross is proof positive of that.