

“For God So Loved the World”

John 3:16-18

1. The Great Manifestation of God’s Love

*“For God so loved the world
that He gave His only begotten Son”*

(1) The Nature of this Love

- Gk: agape - a love which actively seeks the blessing of the one loved
- “God *so loved*” = God loved the world *in this way* –i.e., that He gave His Son

(2) The Action of this Love: He gave His only begotten Son

-1- God *gave*

- He sent His Son into a sin-fallen world, sharing in our humanity
- He gave His Son up to death – to bear the judgment which we deserve

-2- God gave *His only begotten Son*

- His only Son
- His unique Son
- The object of His infinite love and delight

(3) The Purpose of this Love: The Sure Salvation of All those whom He came to save

*“that whoever believes in Him
should not perish, but have eternal life.”*

- Christ secures the salvation of His people
- The Holy Spirit applies the benefits of His saving work to every one of them!

2. The Object and Extent of God’s Love

(1) Men of Every Nation

“For God so loved the world”

- a long-standing Jewish prejudice answered
- God had indeed favored Israel for many centuries
- But he had also spoken very clearly of His purpose to bless all the nations!

(2) Fallen Men!

- His elect ones who are sinful and fallen – of the world until He rescues us!

(3) A Whole World of Men!

*“For God did not send His Son into the world
to condemn the world, but that the world
through Him might be saved.”*

- 1- Christ was sent not a judging mission,
but a saving mission!

-2- It is a redeemed world that God has purposed

- “a new heavens and new earth in which righteousness dwells”
- The church may well still be in her infancy
- The knowledge of the Lord will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea

3. The Imperative of God’s Love

*“He who believes in Him is not condemned;
but he who does not believe is condemned already,
because he has not believed in the name of
the only begotten Son of God.”*

(1) For the believer: deliverance from condemnation

(2) For the one who refuses to believe: the wrath of God abides on him

(3) The horrific offense: rejection of God’s beloved Son

Further Application: