

For God So Loved

John 3:16

Intro: Of everything that has been written and said about love, without God there is no love.

1 John 4:8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; for **God is love.**

John 3:16 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.

1) The fact of His Love: God so loved (v.16a)

God Loved: (past tense) A past, proven fact. An outline of the greatness of God's love is seen in this verse.

- (A) Height: God loved.
- (B) Depth: so loved.
- (C) Length: God gave.
- (D) Breadth: whosoever. (**Romans 8:38-39**)

2) The evidence of His Love: God gave (v.16b)

3) The purpose of His Love: To save (v.16c)

- a. From perishing (**v.16c**)

Perish - Perishing to be lost, to destroy completely, to lose completely, to lose eternal life, to be spiritually destitute, to be cut off.

- 1. Perishing means to be in a lost state in this world. It means to be...
 - aging, deteriorating, decaying, dying.
 - without life (purpose, meaning, significance). **John 1:4**
 - without peace (assurance, confidence, security in God's keeping).
 - without hope (of living forever).
- 2. Perishing means to be in a lost state in the world to come. It means...
 - having to die
 - facing judgment
 - being condemned
 - suffering separation from God and all loved ones
 - experiencing all that hell is
- b. To eternal life (**v.16c**)
- c. By believing (**v.16c**)

4) The proof of His Love: God sent His Son (the Incarnation) (v.17)

- a. Not to condemn (**v.17a**)
- b. To save (**v.17b**)

5) The means of His Love: Through Him (v.17b)