

Subject: John 3:16
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Date 12th July 2009

As the hymn says, "The dear old story of a saviour's love grows sweeter as the days go by". This verse teaches us about the love of God. The Scripture states that "the entrance of Thy word giveth light" so we need to see what the scripture says about love.

In this verse, we learn that it begins with God and ends with everlasting life. This is not an endless life on earth with all the problems that this poses. No one would want that. It is the life of God imparted to us and life with God in Heaven. The Scripture states that "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life (John 3:36). This is the only basis on which we can be certain that we have everlasting life. It bes the questions, Do you ahev everlasting life? Do you want to be in heaven? Do you have everlasting life?

If the verse started with anything other than God, it could not end with everlasting life, because only He can give this life. People claim that there are many ways to Heaven but the Scripture is clear, "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Prov 14:12). Every way other than God's will end in death. The Bible has an exclusive message. If you do not come in God's way, you cannot come at all.

There is a desire in people for something deeper than life as we know it offers. This is because there is a God in Heaven with whom we have to do. He is a God Who loves us. The Gospel message comes from the heart of God.

When our verse says that He loves the world, it does not refer to the physical world but rather to the people who live in the world. If He loves the world, then He loves each one of us. He is not far away, but rather He is near to each of us.

God did something about the fact that He loves us. The world is made up of individuals who are lost and perishing. We are all in one of two camps, either we are lost and perishing or we have been saved. Which camp are you in? Praise God, there is still time to change and be saved because God spared not His Son but delivered Him up for us all" (Rom 8:) Have you ever found live like this?

There are 25 words in our verse and the centre word is Son. Without Him, there would be no Gospel. God is holy and just. He cannot have sin in His presence so He cannot allow sinners into His presence unless they have been saved through the work of Christ at Calvary when He took the punishment for our sins. He only had to speak to bring creation into existence, but it took the death of His Son to save you and me. He prayed, "If it is possible, take away this cup from me" but He knew what He had to do, suffering physically from men and also enduring the wrath of God. This is why "there is no other name under Heaven given among men whereby we must be saved (Acts 4:12)

The first part of our verse is unconditional, but the second is conditional. Unless I accept God's way, I cannot be saved. I must believe in (pin my hope on) the Son (Jesus Christ). You can be saved tonight. You are only a step away from sins forgiven and a home in Heaven, but you need to put your name in the verse. Are you prepared to do it?