



Perfecting Love: God So Loves...

How Much Does God Love You?

“God completely and absolutely gave Himself to us. In our surrender, we must give ourselves to God in the same way He gave Himself for us—totally, unconditionally and without reservation.”

Oswald Chambers

A. What Does Love Seek? *I Cor 13:5*

- Love does not seek its own...is the defining Biblical truth on the nature and motive of love.
- For God so loved the world...is the defining Biblical truth on the source and standard of love.

B. Love: The Gospel in One Verse *John 3:16*

1. For God: There is a God! There are many good reasons for believing in God but the best one is that Jesus taught us that God exists and He is the central reality in a life.

2. For God so loved: God loves! John also says, “God is love.” (1 John 4:8) But this love is unique because God “so” loved. This is not an amount of love but a ‘quality’ of love. It is God Himself.

3. For God so loved the world: God loves the world! The quality of God’s love is demonstrated when He comes to rescue a world in chaos. “But God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.” *Rom 5:8 (NLT)*

4. For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son: God has a Son! Jesus is NOT a son by adoption or creation. “Rabbits beget rabbits; horses beget horses; humans beget humans, not statues or portraits; and God begets God—not humans and not angels.” *C.S. Lewis*

5. ...That whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life: Look to the Son! “And as Moses lifted up the bronze snake on a pole in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in Him will have eternal life.” *John 3:14-15 (NLT)*

- God’s divine intervention provided healing in Moses day.
- God’s divine intervention (*from a motivation of love*) has provided salvation and healing for us today.
- Looking to Jesus: Belief consists of accepting something, not doing something. (*Accepting His finished work on the cross for my salvation*).

But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him.

1 John 2:5

Put on Love

But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. *Col 3:14*

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

Eph 3:14-21 For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

15 from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man,

17 that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—

19 to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

20 Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,

21 to Him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Eph 5:1-2 Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.

2 And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

Deu 10:15 Yet the LORD chose your ancestors as the objects of His love. And He chose you, their descendants, above all other nations, as is evident today.