

## THE GOSPEL OF JOHN | John 3:16

**16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."**  
**John 3:16 ESV**

### I. WHY DID JESUS HAVE TO DIE?

*29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"*  
**John 1:29 ESV**

God would not be righteous if he chose to simply sweep our sins under the rug without any consequence. It would be unjust for God to acquit guilty sinners as though our sin was insignificant, when in reality, every single one of our sins is nothing short of a heinous act of treason against an infinitely glorious God.

*7 Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it! 8 Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together 9 before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.*  
**Psalm 98:7-9 ESV**

### II. WHAT ALL IS PURCHASED BY JESUS' DEATH?

*26 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.*  
**Ezekiel 36:26-27 ESV**

If Christ died for all people in the same way, then his death simply could not have purchased the gifts of regeneration, faith, and repentance. Instead, Christians must be required to somehow regenerate themselves, and come to faith and repentance on their own.

*"If we believe that Christ died for all men in the same way, then the benefits of the cross cannot include the mercy by which we are brought to faith, because then all men would be brought to faith, but they aren't. If the mercy by which we are brought to faith is not a part of the benefits that Christ purchased on the cross, then we are left to obtain our deliverance from spiritual deadness and spiritual blindness another way."*  
**-John Piper**

Jesus' blood purchases and guarantees a new heart of faith and repentance. However, Scripture is clear that God does not do this for everyone. He has only done it for a particular (or definite) group of people.

*14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.*  
**John 10:14-15 ESV**

### III. WAS THE GIFT OF JESUS LOVING FOR THE WHOLE WORLD?

Most of us can see how it is loving for God to give up his own Son in order to purchase a new heart for those he chose to save, but how is this loving towards "the world"? Our text begins by saying, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son." So how is God's giving of his Son loving to the world?

To answer this question, we first need to ask, "What does the word "world" mean in this context?"

Does it mean the scattered elect from among every tribe, tongue, and nation, or does it mean each and every individual universally?

*2 He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also the sins of the whole world.* **1 John 2:2 ESV**

*10 For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe.*  
**1 Timothy 4:10 ESV**

Christ's death does not simply guarantee the salvation of the elect, but it also purchases the possibility of salvation for all people. This principle is incredibly important because it carries with it massive implications for how we engage in evangelism with non-Christians.

**FIRST RESPONSE - COFFEE WITH THE PASTORS**

<b>DAY/TIME</b>	<b>LEADERS</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>CONTACT INFO</b>
The First Sunday of Every Month at 7PM	Joel Webbon Rony Renfrow Stacy Craft	3240 Lowell St San Diego, CA 92106	469-487-6298 joel@theresponsechurch.com

**MISSIONAL COMMUNITIES**

<b>DAY/TIME</b>	<b>LEADERS</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>CONTACT INFO</b>
Tuesday at 7PM	Joel & Megan Webbon	3240 Lowell St San Diego, CA 92106	469-487-6298 joel@theresponsechurch.com
Wednesday at 7PM	Jacob & Ally Merkey	3062 Malaga St. San Diego, CA 92110	713-385-6940 jacob@theresponsechurch.com
Thursday at 7PM	Rony & Danielle Renfrow	1676 Chatsworth Blvd San Diego, CA 92107	925-348-0128 rony@theresponsechurch.com
Thursday at 7PM	Stacy Craft	3328 Stern St. San Diego, CA 92106	704-778-2609 stacy@theresponsechurch.com