

Us Who Are Being Saved

Pastor Anthony J. Shetley

Sunday, May 19, 2024

❖ John 3:16 – For God so loved the world.

Here, love is used as a verb in the past tense for it speaks to the action taken by God out of His love for every person. God gave His Son (past tense) out of His ever-present love. The giving of His Son demonstrated the height, depth, width, and breadth of His love. “O how He loves us!

His love is higher than any glory of man, it goes deeper than the lowest pit of despair wherein any man could ever fall, its width extends from eternity past to the eternal future, and its breadth encompasses all of humanity.

God loves *every man*, not just the righteous or religious but also the unrighteous and the sinner; not just those who believe but also those who don't believe; not just the ones who love Him but also the ones who are unloving; the ones who are unrepentant and obstinate; He loves the selfish, the greedy, the malicious, and the hateful.

The One who said, “If you've seen Me, you've seen the Father” also taught that one must “love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. If you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.” (**Jesus the Christ - Matthew 5:44–48**)

Yes, God loves us just as we are! The biggest lie of Satan is that we aren't loved. How can God love one who is a sinner? How can God love one who is a failure? How can God love one who lives foolishly and recklessly? How can God love one who is weak and fearful. How can God love one who has squandered their life in selfishness and foolishness?

1 John 4:10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.

God loves man, but He hates sin. Sin separates a person from God and the wage of sin is death. God is not willing for any soul to perish but desires all to be reconciled back to Him. This is why **He sent Jesus to be the propitiation for our sins**. Jesus satisfied the righteous requirement of the law that demanded death.

Romans 5:9–10 (AMP)⁹ Therefore, since we are now justified (acquitted, made righteous, and brought into right relationship with God) by Christ's blood, how much more [certain is it that] we shall be saved by Him from the indignation *and* wrath of God.¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, it is much more [certain], now that we are reconciled, that **we shall be saved (daily delivered from sin's dominion) through His [resurrection] life**.

In Christ, we are brought from death to life! He is the author and finisher of our faith. The One who has begun a good work in us will complete it until the day of Christ Jesus! According to the riches of His Grace and the abundance of His love, He has supplied us everything we need so that where He is, we can be also.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body **be preserved complete, without blame** at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 John 4:16 (NIV) And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.