

**Sermon on John 3:16**  
**Speaker: Dr. Wesley Rowe**  
**Calvary Bible Church**  
**August 31, 2003**

**John 3:16**

**"For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (NIV)**

**"For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (KJV)**

**7 very important pieces of revelation about God's plan of salvation for the world.**

**1. John 3:16 is a summary of all that Jesus has been saying to Nicodemus—that new birth for Nicodemus is possible through the death of Jesus DUE TO THE LOVE OF GOD.**

**2. John 3:16 tells us that it is GOD THE FATHER WHO LOVES THE WORLD.**

**3. The SCOPE of God's love is THE WORLD.**

**Meaning of the term "world."**

**A.) People from all over the world, in contrast to just Jews.**

**B.) Every person in the world.**

**Psalm 5:4-5, "For thou art not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with thee. The foolish shall not stand in thy sight; thou hatest all workers of iniquity." (KJV) or "You hate all who do wrong." (NIV).**

**Passages that emphasize God's love for lost sinners and not just for the elect!**

**A.) Mk. 10:17-22;**

**B.) Matthew 5:43-48**

**C.) The Actions of Jesus during His incarnation.**

**FF. Bruce aptly comments: "John 3:16 teaches that the love of God is limitless; it embraces all mankind. No sacrifice was too great to bring its unmeasured intensity home to men and women: the best that God had to give, he gave—His only Son, his well-beloved. Nor was it for one nation or group that he was given: he was given so that all, without distinction or exception, who repose their faith on him might be rescued from destruction and blessed with the life that is life indeed. The gospel of salvation and life has its source in the love of God."**

Calvin says, "Christ brought life, because the heavenly Father loves the human race, and wishes that they should not perish."

4. God's love devised His plan of salvation WHICH WOULD COME THROUGH THE DEATH OF HIS SON.

5. God's end, God's design, God's purpose in sending His Son was two fold: THE DESTRUCTION OF CONDEMNATION AND THE ETERNAL SALVATION OF LOST SINNERS who believe in Christ.

6. There is ONE CONDITION FOR GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION. It is FAITH IN CHRIST.

7. There are NO EXCEPTIONS TO GOD'S SALVATION if you will only believe.

**SUMMARY:**

**A summary of John 3:16:**

1. The Person who loved. "God"
2. The Scope of the love. "the world"
3. The Proof of love "he gave"
4. The Freeness of love "whoever"
5. The Effect of love "shall not perish but have eternal life"