

## “He Gave His Only Begotten Son”

**Intro:** Undoubtedly we have before us the \_\_\_\_\_ quoted and \_\_\_\_\_ verse of Scripture. And it is this affection for this verse that causes us to approach the study of it with a heightened sense of awe, yet it is that familiarity and our comfort in quoting it that makes it so important that we give it \_\_\_\_\_.

A. That salvation is \_\_\_\_\_ is a truth the Beloved has been teaching from the beginning for in 1:12-13 he wrote, “But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, 13 who were \_\_\_\_\_ not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but \_\_\_\_\_.”

B. With our Lord meeting Nicodemus and explaining to him his need to be born again, we come to verse 16 which \_\_\_\_\_ upon what our Lord said in conversation with him.

### John 3:16

I. “For \_\_\_\_\_ so \_\_\_\_\_ the world, that \_\_\_\_\_ His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

A. This is to say, “Nicodemus, as you have given your self to your dead religion (which is a false system of works merited salvation), know this, that if you want to enter into eternal life, you must be born again. And, being born again is a work of the will of God, not of man.  
\_\_\_\_\_ who so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son!”

II. “\_\_\_\_\_ ...”

A. According to S. Zodhiates, “for” is translated from the Greek “gar” and is “a causative particle” which expresses “\_\_\_\_\_ for what has been before ...” In other words, when a verse begins with the word “for” we immediately understand that what follows is an \_\_\_\_\_ of what was just said.

III. “... \_\_\_\_\_ ...”

A. John Calvin wrote, “Christ reveals the \_\_\_\_\_ and, as it were, the source of our salvation in a way that leaves no room for uncertainty, for our minds cannot find rest until we embrace \_\_\_\_\_ unmerited \_\_\_\_\_.”

IV. “... so \_\_\_\_\_ ...”

A. \_\_\_\_\_ chose to give His Son for us! Why did God give His Son? Because “God \_\_\_\_\_” (1 John 4:8 & 16).

1. In answer to the question, “Why did God chose to love and save us?” Ephesians 1:4-7 NIV says, “For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight. \_\_\_\_\_ 5 He predestined us to be adopted as His sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with \_\_\_\_\_ pleasure and \_\_\_\_\_ - 6 to the praise of His glorious grace, which He has \_\_\_\_\_ us in the One He loves.”

B. The word “so” denotes with what \_\_\_\_\_ He loved us. “For God so loved” means this: that God absolutely and undeniably is love, and that His love has come to the world without measure for He \_\_\_\_\_ for us!

1. Romans 5:6-8, “For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. 8 But God demonstrates \_\_\_\_\_ toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, \_\_\_\_\_ for us.”

V. "... the \_\_\_\_\_ ..."

A. "World" refers to "\_\_\_\_\_" in a general sense. Meaning, that in respect to His love, He \_\_\_\_\_ peoples irrespective of their race, the age in which they lived, bloodline, social, economical, or educational status. He sent His Son so that all men everywhere might know that He is God! As the Apostle Peter said, Acts 10:34, "I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality, 35 but in \_\_\_\_\_ the man who fears Him and does what is right, is welcome to Him. (Cf. Romans 1:16 & 10:12-13)

VI. "... that \_\_\_\_\_ ..."

A. "Gave" means "to give of one's \_\_\_\_\_ accord and with \_\_\_\_\_."

VII. "... His \_\_\_\_\_ begotten \_\_\_\_\_ ..."

A. "Only begotten" means "\_\_\_\_\_, one of a kind, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_."

1. And this only begotten Son is the who is spoken of when the Scripture says, "... the \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ to be the Savior of the world" (1 John 4:14).

B. In 3:14, \_\_\_\_\_ told Nicodemus that "as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be \_\_\_\_\_ ..." And now, He is telling Nicodemus that the Son of Man is also the only begotten Son of God who would intercede for the salvation of all believers everywhere by being lifted up upon the cross. The \_\_\_\_\_ His only begotten \_\_\_\_\_ for this - for you and me!

VIII. "... that \_\_\_\_\_ in Him ..."

A. The word "whoever" means "\_\_\_\_\_" and points out the \_\_\_\_\_ of whom it refers.

1. The word "whoever" establishes the \_\_\_\_\_ so one may have eternal life; and the quality "whoever" must possess is belief (\_\_\_\_\_).

a. \_\_\_\_\_ can one come to possess the quality of faith that believes that Jesus is the Son of God - the Christ!? You must be \_\_\_\_\_ again by washing of the water of regeneration, and the Spirit \_\_\_\_\_! ... Titus 3:4-6, "But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, 5 \_\_\_\_\_, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to \_\_\_\_\_, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, 6 whom He poured out upon us richly \_\_\_\_\_ Christ our Savior, ..."

b. It is \_\_\_\_\_ abiding in us through the new birth that one \_\_\_\_\_ By faith \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_ is the Son of God. (Cf. 1 John 4:9-10, 13-15)

**Closing:** We must be born again by the Spirit of God - so \_\_\_\_\_ for Jesus said, "The one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out" (John 6:37). And, Rom 10:8-9, "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart"-- that is, the word of faith which we are preaching, 9 that if you \_\_\_\_\_ with your mouth \_\_\_\_\_ as Lord, and \_\_\_\_\_ in your heart that God raised \_\_\_\_\_ from the dead, you shall be saved;" And beloved, if you can truly confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, then glorify God, for He has washed you with the water of regeneration, and renewed you by His Spirit! "For God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have \_\_\_\_\_!"