

The Greatest Statement Ever Made

John 3:16 - "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."

The Greatest Statement Ever Made

- There are several profound verses in the Bible regarding God's love for man. 1.
 - 1John 4:8 - "He who does not love does not know God, for God is love."
 - Rom. 5:8 - "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
 - John 3:16 is the pinnacle

Greatest Because Of The One Who Loves

- “**GOD** so loved.” Eternal God, immutable, all knowing, omnipresent, Holy God who created all
 - Deut. 33:27 - “The eternal God is your refuge, And underneath are the everlasting arms...”
 - Heb. 6:17-18 - “Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, 18 that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.”

Greatest Because Of The One Who Loves

- He sees all of our steps and loves us in spite of knowing that much about us
 - Job 34:21 - “For His eyes are on the ways of man, And He sees all his steps.”
 - Psalm 139:1-12

Greatest Because Of Whom He Loves

- "For God so loved **THE WORLD**"
 - The world (kosmos) is not the world John said to "love not," but rather, it is humankind
 - 1John 2:15 - "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him."
 - John 17:21 - "...That they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me."

Greatest Because Of Whom He Loves

- The greatness of God's love for man is seen in the unworthiness of man to receive God's love
 - Rom. 5:6-8 - “For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

Greatest Because Of How Much He Loves

- "For God **SO LOVED**..."
 - 1John 3:1 - "Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!"
 - This does not mean that God approved the conduct of men, but that he had benevolent feelings toward them, or was earnestly desirous of their happiness. God hates wickedness, but he still desires the happiness of those who are sinful. He hates the sin, but loves the sinner. A parent may love his child and desire his welfare, and yet be strongly opposed to the conduct of that child. When we approve the conduct of another, this is the love of complacency; when we desire simply their happiness, this is the love of benevolence. (Barnes Notes)

Greatest Because Of The Extent Of God's Love

- "That He **GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON...**"
 - Gen. 22:2 - "Then He said, Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."

Greatest Because Of The Extent Of God's Love

- The love (agapao) of John 3:16 is unselfish and seeks only the wellbeing of the one so loved.
 - 1John 4:9 - “In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.”
- Jesus is unique
 - Only begotten is from monogenes, which means one of a kind
 - Only sinless Being in this world given for all non-unique sinners

Greatest Because Of How Many God Loves

- “That **WHOSOEVER** believeth...”
 - The Pharisaic concept in John’s day limited God’s love to conservative Jews only
 - Matt. 5:43-48
 - Rev. 3:20 - “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.”

Greatest Because Of The Consequences

- “That whosoever believeth in him **SHOULD NOT PERISH...**”
 - “Perish is an antonym for everlasting life. The negation should not perish (meapoletai) is literally translated "may not perish" (Nestle’s Interlinear Greek-English New Testament).
 - The opposite of perish is "HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE."
- There are only two classes of individuals
 - Matt. 25:46 - “And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Greatest Because Of The Consequences

- “Everlasting life” indicates the glory and bliss awaiting the saved
 - 2Cor. 5:1-4 - “For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, 3 if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. 4 For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life.”

Greatest Because Of The Consequences

- “Everlasting life” indicates the glory and bliss awaiting the saved
 - 1Peter 1:3-4 - “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you”
 - Titus 1:2 - “in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began”

Greatest Because Of The Condition For Everlasting Life In The Presence Of God's Eternal Love

- "...that whosoever **BELIEVETH IN HIM** should not perish..."
 - James 2:14-26
- A working faith in response to God's working love
 - Gal. 5:6 - "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love."
 - 1John 5:3 - "For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome."

Greatest Because Of The Condition For Everlasting Life In The Presence Of God's Eternal Love

- True believers obey the gospel
 - Acts 2:38
 - Rom. 10:9-10
- The Lord adds them to his church
 - Acts 2:47
 - Gal. 3:26-27

The Greatest Statement Ever Made

- 2Peter 1:10 - “Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble”
- Heb. 3:12-14 - “Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; 13 but exhort one another daily, while it is called Today, lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. 14 For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end”