

## LOVE'S MANY DIMENSIONS

**Text: John 3:16**

**Key Word:** Love

**Key Thought:** God's Love Is Extensive

I think we could safely say that this verse is the most commonly quoted portion of Scripture. It hardly is excluded from any memory verse contest - and rightly so. This verse contains the message of salvation. It is the Bible in one verse. It was the carefully chosen words to a searching religious leader named Nicodemus. These words have a 3-fold dimension.

**I. THE LENGTH OF LOVE - the world**

**II. THE DEPTH OF LOVE - whosoever**

**III. THE HEIGHT OF LOVE - everlasting life**

**I. THE LENGTH OF LOVE - the world**

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son . . ."*

*John 3:16a*

"We never know how much one loves till we know much he is willing to endure and suffer for us; and it is the suffering element that measures love."

Henry Ward Beecher

"Love makes the world go round"

English Proverb

**The Bible tells us love goes around the world.** In some countries this would be difficult to accept. We are all aware of the many racial conflicts worldwide. People are hated simply because of the colour of their skin, the language they speak or the area they were born in.

There is only one answer for a world that is torn apart with hatred. The answer is the love of God. **It amazes me how people will reject the authentic love of God and yet accept a counterfeit love.** There is a thirst for true love that keeps many people craving for it to be quenched. We hear lots about love but lack much demonstration of it in our world. We need God's love.

## I. THE LENGTH OF LOVE - the world (Contd.)

If our world would accept God's love there would be . . .

1. No arms build up
2. No food shortages
3. No racial tension
4. No greed/monetary collapses
5. No broken relationships
6. No substance abuse
7. No large health care costs

God's love was given to our world to unite it. **But our world in all of it's sophistication and wisdom has eluded the love of God.** There is only one way to bring the world into unity and peace - that is under the banner of God's love.

But we have an enemy who is promoting his form of love. It is also being spread world-wide. Shortly he will gather all of these deceived ones to oppose the love of God. Although the place is only mentioned once in Scripture (Revelation 16:16), it is a very well-known place - "**Armageddon.**" It means "**the hill of Megiddo.**"

The devil always tries to counterfeit God's plans. God has told us in His Word,

*"In the last days the mountain of the LORD'S temple will be established as chief among the mountains; It will be raised above the hills, and the peoples will stream into it.*

*2. Many nations will come and say, 'Come let us go to the mountain of the LORD to the house of the God of Jacob.'*

*Micah 4:1,2*

As the prophecy is being fulfilled because God's people are attracted world-wide by God's love, another gathering will be taking place.

*"Then they (3 evil spirits from the dragon, beast, false prophet) gathered the kings together to a place that in the Hebrew is called Armageddon."*

*Revelation 16:16*

## I. THE LENGTH OF LOVE - the world (Contd.)

The nations will be **heading for the mountain** but they will **end up in a valley**. They will be drawn by evil spirits engaged in all kinds of deception. It's interesting that their focal point is called "the great prostitute."

*"Come I will show you the punishment of the great prostitute, who sits on many waters (nations).  
2. With her the kings of the earth committed adultery and the inhabitants of the earth were intoxicated with the wine of her adulteries."*

*Revelation 17:1,2*

If the world does not accept the length of God's love it will be forced to accept the extent of the devil's intoxicating adultery.

## **II. THE DEPTH OF LOVE - whosoever**

*"that whosoever believes in him . . ."*

*John 3:16c*

God's love will always reach down to anyone who will receive it.

*"For God so greatly loved (dearly prized) the world that He (even) gave up His only begotten (unique) Son, so that whoever believes in (trusts, clings to, relies on) Him shall not perish (come to destruction, be lost) but have eternal (everlasting) life."*

*John 3:16  
AMP*

God will never exclude anyone from His love. No one is too sinful to receive the love of God.

1. Judas Iscariot could have been in Heaven today
2. Both thieves could have received salvation
3. Moses' Pharaoh could have softened his heart
4. Hitler could have repented
5. Saddam Hussein could have become a believer

## II. THE DEPTH OF LOVE - whosoever (Contd.)

No one can say, "I am too great a sinner for Jesus to save." No one is either too good or too bad for God. We must all come to Jesus the same way. The only way is the way Jesus provided. No one can say, "*God hates me.*"

There's a little plague with a big message that says,

"I asked God how much He loves me, He opened His arms wide  
(on the cross) and said, '*This much!*'"

Paul told the church at Rome,

*"neither height nor depth nor anything else in all  
creation will be able to separate us from the love of  
God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

*Romans 8:39*

God's love is of such magnitude, that He would set up a mission on the doorstep of hell if He thought it would gain one more soul.

\*\*\* I'll always remember the words of a retired missionary,  
George Whittal, when he described the men and women who were  
kept in prison under his guard.

He could have described them by their outward appearance  
and ungodly speech but he rather said, "*they're precious souls that  
Jesus died for.*"

Oh the depth of God's love!

### III. THE HEIGHT OF LOVE - everlasting life

*"should not perish but have everlasting life."*

*John 3:16d*

The contrast is very clear.

#### **Instead of hell**

... everlasting punishment  
... tears  
... darkness  
... hunger  
... lake of fire  
... chains

#### **God offers Heaven**

... everlasting life  
... joy  
... light  
... banquets  
... streets of gold\precious stones  
... freedom

The height of God's love is contained in everything that is represented by eternal life.  
What a blessing it is to know that God loves us this much to give us eternal life.

### 2183 Speaking of Heaven

\*\*\* Charles E. Fuller once announced that he would be speaking the following Sunday on "Heaven". During that week a beautiful letter was received from an old man who was very ill. The following is part of that letter.

*"Next Sunday you are to talk about Heaven. I am interested in that land, because I have held a clear title to a bit of property there for over fifty-five years. I didn't buy it. It was given to me at tremendous sacrifice. I am not holding it for speculation since that title is not transferable. It is not a vacant lot.*

*"For more than half a century, I have been sending materials out of which the greatest Architect and Builder of the Universe has been building a home for me which will never need to be remodelled nor repaired because it will suit me perfectly, individually, and will never grow old.*

*"Termites can never undermine its foundations for they rest on the Rock of Ages. Fire cannot destroy it. Floods cannot wash it away. No locks nor bolts will ever be placed upon its doors, for no vicious person can ever enter that land where my dwelling stands. It is almost completed and ready for me to enter in and abide in peace eternally, without fear of being ejected. "*

### III. THE HEIGHT OF LOVE - everlasting life (Contd.)

**\*\*\*** *There is a valley of deep shadow between the place where I live in California and that to which I shall journey in a very short time. I cannot reach my home in that City of God without passing through this valley of shadows. But I am not afraid because the best Friend I ever had went through the same valley long, long ago and drove away all its gloom.*

*He has stuck by me through thick and thin, since we first became acquainted fifty-five years ago, and I hold His promise in printed form, never to forsake me or leave me alone. He will be with me as I walk through the valley of shadows, and I shall not lose my way when He is with me.*

*I hope to hear your sermon on Heaven next Sunday from home in Los Angeles, California, but I have no assurance that I shall be able to do so. My ticket for Heaven has no date marked for the journey. . . no return coupon . . . no permit for baggage. Yes, I am all ready to go and I may not be here while you are talking next Sunday evening, but I shall meet you there some day."*

Messenger of Peace

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**II. THE DEPTH OF LOVE - whosoever**  
**III. THE HEIGHT OF LOVE - everlasting life**

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Date: Nov 27/16

Place: FCA

Time: 6:30 Pm

Song: I Receive Your Love - D

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**I. THE LENGTH OF LOVE - the world** - *John 3:16a; Micah 4:1,2; Revelation 16:16; Revelation 17:1,2*

**II. THE DEPTH OF LOVE - whosoever** - *John 3:16c; John 3:16 AMP; Romans 8:39*

**III. THE HEIGHT OF LOVE - everlasting life** - *John 3:16d*