

Introduction

- John 3:16
 - Most quoted Bible verse of all time
 - Christianity in a small package
- 5 simple facts
 - God loves us all
 - God did something to prove his love
 - God gave his son
 - All that is required is belief
 - Eternal life is offered

1.) God loves us all

God loves us all

- ... God so loved the world ...
- loved
 - Eros - romantic
 - Storge - parental
 - Philia - friends
 - Agape - God's love for mankind
 - agapaō - to love a person dearly (in a social or moral sense)
 - Matthew 5:43-44
 - Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.
 - We are told to love our enemies. Bless them, do good to them, pray for them
 - God does good things to the evil and the good
 - God has done something good for the good and the evil, the just and the unjust.
- world
 - kosmos - the universe
 - this is a figure of speech known as metonymy [meh-tah-nah-me]
 - in this case, the container is put for the contents
- Conclusion
 - God does good things to the evil and the good
 - God loves us all

2.) God did something to prove his love

God did something to prove his love

- ... so loved the world that he gave ...
- God did something
 - actions speak louder than words
 - God did not just say something kind
 - God did something kind to prove his kindness
 - God is more than all talk
- God did something meaningful
 - Mankind was in need, and God provided help
 - Sin had entered the world, and death entered in through sin (Romans 5:12)
 - Jesus bore the sins of the world (1 Peter 2:24)
 - Jesus put away sin (Hebrews 9:26)
 - Reborn, born again (John 3:3,7 Ephesians 2:1-3)
- Conclusion
 - He is a God that acts
 - God did something meaningful
 - God proved his love

3.) God gave his Son

God gave his Son

- ... He gave his only begotten son...
- How exactly was Jesus given?
 - God's son was given up to live in a corrupt world
 - God's son was given up to suffer for the sins of others
 - God's son was given up to die as a substitute for you and for me
 - God's son experienced corruption, he suffered, and he died for us
 - All the while God's son was innocent, and did not deserve any of it.
- God sacrificed his son
 - As a father, the act of sacrificing your son is unthinkable
 - Nothing is more precious to a parent than a child
 - God gave up the most valuable thing he possessed
 - What else could he have given that would have been so effective and express his love so clearly? (Romans 5:8)
- Only begotten son
 - God has only one son to give
 - God did not provide an alternative means of help
 - God provided only one
 - The form in which God provided help to man was only through his son and in no other way

4.) All that is required is belief

All that is required is belief

- ... That whosoever believeth in him ...
- God could have made this unconditional
 - If this were unconditional we would not see a condition here
 - If that were so it would say ... That the world ... Instead of ... That whosoever believeth in him ...
- There is a condition applied to receiving God's help
 - All that fulfill this condition satisfy the terms of God's help
 - Whosoever - No one is excluded from participating in this condition
 - Upon satisfying the terms the help from God is applied
- Condition - Believeth in him
 - In context the thing we are to believe is that God gave up his son for us
 - Faith in the sacrificial work of Jesus Christ is the condition spoken up here
 - This speaks of the suffering of Jesus
 - The speaks of the death of Jesus
 - The speaks of the resurrection of Jesus (Romans 4:25)
 - All of which he did for us

5.) Eternal life is offered

Eternal life is offered

- ... should not perish, but have everlasting life.
- Cure to the effects of sin
- When this life is given
 - Have is in the present tense
 - This does not begin after life, it begins the very moment one believes in Jesus in this way
- Not borrowed
 - Have describes possession
 - It is yours, you own it.
- Duration of everlasting life
 - Life that lasts forever
 - No end
- Spiritual Eternal Life
 - God brings to life that which was dead
 - Spiritually alive
 - Able to experience the full expression of the human experience
- Physical eternal life
 - This life will even overcome physical death

- Just as you believe God raised Jesus from the dead, he will also raise you from the dead
- Jesus bodily rose from the dead. That is to say he had a physical body.
- This is why the resurrection of Jesus is a part of the condition.
- We who believe in Jesus in this way, yet die before the return of our Lord, will be given glorified bodies.

Conclusion

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