

# Divine Love of God Incarnate

**John 3:16** [NIV] *“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.”*

This is the message of good news that Jesus brought from God the Father, compressed into 25 words.

**This is much more than a thought, it is a divine message to each and every human being who has and will ever live.**

**This divine message tells each of us –**

That we mean something to our Creator God

That we are precious to Him

That He wants to reveal Himself to us in personal terms

That He wants to show us that in loving the world He loves each one of us individually because we mean something to Him

That we really do matter to Him

That He is emotionally concerned about each one of us

**There is a strange contradiction in human nature.**

A person can reek with pride, display a swollen ego and strut like a peacock, yet still be the loneliest and most miserable person in the world.

Such people are all around us, pretending and playing a game on the world stage.

Deep within their beings they are almost overwhelmed by their great loneliness.

They experience a heavy sense of being an orphan in the final scheme of things.

Such an individual is well aware that they are alone in spite of being busy and active. For in the things that matter they are an orphan with **no** father to whom they may run and **no** mother to whom they can go for comfort.

Their inward feeling tells them that there is no-one anywhere who is emotionally concerned about them.

Any concern of their own narrow little family is **not** the answer to their need for they will all in the end die along with them.

This strange, aching sense of loneliness is summed up like this –

*“What good is to be a human being? No-one really cares about me.”*

*“I matter to no-one except the little mortal circle around me and when they go away or die, I will matter to no-one.”*

**This complex attitude is one of the bitter results of sin.**

**Genesis 3:1** [NIV] *“Now the serpent [Satan] ... said to the woman [Eve] **did God really say ...**”*

**In effect Satan was saying to Eve, “you don’t really matter to God for He lied to you.”**

**As a result of this disbelief in the words of a loving Creator God, sin came into the human world with all its woes and its ugly trail of death along with it.**

God has made every human being very complex with great intellectual and spiritual capacities.

**It is only sin, defeat and fear of death that can make us feel we are orphans.**

This is why people in this world dedicate their life to immortalise themselves, so that when death takes them out of this world they will be remembered by future generations.

**This is what drove the Napoleons, the Hitlers and the Stalins to do what they did, with no thought of the pain and suffering it caused other people.**

**In this humanistic approach to life, the individual no longer matters.**

We are schooled to think of the human race in terms of statistics.

**This is the curse of statism.**

The curse of dictatorship philosophy and the weapon of totalitarian governments.

The state is made to be everything.

The party or organisation means everything but the individual means nothing at all.

## **God deals with individuals**

When the eternal Son of God became the Son of Man and walked on the earth, He always called individuals to His side.

Jesus Christ did **not** preach to the multitudes as if they were a faceless crowd.

**Jesus with a knowledge of the burdens and needs of every individual, preached to them as individuals.**

**Hebrews 4:14-16** [NIV] *“Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. **For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are, yet was without sin.** Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”*

**Jesus Christ proved this every day of His ministry, He was emotionally concerned with individual humans.**

**John 8:3-11** [NIV] *“The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group and said to Jesus, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?” They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, “If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.” Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground. At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. Jesus*

straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no-one condemned you?" "No-one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

This woman whose accusers said she was taken in the act of adultery was lying in the dust ready to be stoned to death, but the Son of Man raised her gently to her feet. He assured her of God's forgiveness and love for her as an individual as He told her to go and sin no more."

**Mark 10:13-16** [NIV] *"People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them."*

**It was not easy for women as individuals on this earth 2,000 years ago. But Jesus selected mothers from the crowds and touched and blessed their infants and assured them individually that the Kingdom of God belongs to such as them.**

**Luke 7:11-15** [NIV] *"Soon afterwards, Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went along with him. As he approached the town gate, a dead person was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the town was with her. When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said, "Don't cry." Then he went up and touched the coffin, and those carrying it stood still. He said, "Young man, I say to you, get up!" The dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him back to his mother."*

**The compassion that Jesus had for this lonely widow, turned her life around for the good.**

Jesus did **not** come into our world to deal with statistics!

**Jesus deals with individuals and that is why the Christian message is and always will be "God loves the world," which includes you and me individually.**

**If it did not say "the world" I would always be wondering if it really did include me!**

**Most of humanity are ignorant of this individual factor in the love of God.**

Dwight Moody once said, *"if I could get everybody in the world to believe that God loves them individually, I would get everybody in the world converted to Christianity."*

When we look around with a serious kind of observation we will see that Satan has been very successful in planting this lie that no-one cares about the individual person.

Who really cares about past generations?

Few care when we live and fewer still when we die is very true of human society.

No-one stops to think very much about the old tramp, whose tired old body seems to smell of every place he has been in during the past 10 years.

When he is sober enough, he still has thoughts and memories of his boyhood and those who loved and nurtured him, who are now long dead.

The Christian message for such sad and lonely people is still the same as it is for us.

*"Some One who matters is not happy because you are the way you are."*

*"He is One who knows your name."*

*"He remembers you and loves you where you are and as you are."*

*“You mean something to Him because He has created you in His image, and desires that you will let Him create you in His likeness, that is to love others the way He loves you.”*

What a message for a sinner.

What a message for a failure.

What a message for the loneliest of the lonely.

What a message for all humans who have never known the Christian God Who created them.

What a message for those who are bound by chains of habits, abuse and self-gratification.

**Luke 23:39-43** [NIV] *“One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Christ? Save yourself and us!” But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said, “**Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.**” Jesus answered him, “**I tell you the truth today, you will be with me in paradise.**”*

Even when in personal agony and near to death Jesus showed concern and love for an individual who was reaping the just reward for being a rebel and traitor to the parents who loved and nurtured him.

Christ’s words to this repenting rebel must have been of great comfort to him.

At his death this repenting rebel’s human spirit was reserved in heaven awaiting his resurrection at Christ’s second coming.

**2 Peter 3:9** [NIV] *“**The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.**”*

The grace and mercy and willingness of God to forgive is extended to every human being who will ever live.

**Romans 3:10** [NIV] *“As it is written: “**There is no-one righteous, not even one;**”*

**No-one is righteous in God’s eyes and unless we repent we will perish.**

**However evil in our eyes a person may be, there is not one human being who is hopeless and beyond forgiveness and impossible of conversion.**

We cannot truthfully say that there is some good in everyone, but we can say that there is someone who loves and cares for them whether they are good or not.

We can say that there is a loving God who is emotionally concerned about them.

**John 10:10-11** [NIV] *“... I [Jesus Christ] **have come that they** [all humanity acting like lost sheep] **may have life, and have it to the full.** I am the good shepherd, and the good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”*

**God has never indicated that He is waiting for us to make ourselves morally good before He extends His love and mercy to us.**

Our part is to turn to God in faith, confessing our great need, and thanking Him for revealing His love and concern for us through the birth, life, death and now priesthood of Jesus Christ the eternal Son.

**Romans 10:17** [NIV] *“Consequently, **faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.**”*

Faith comes to us by hearing and reading the promises of God in the Christian Bible.

Faith becomes perfect as we pray and talk to our Creator God, our Heavenly Father.

God longs to hear us confide in Him, *“Oh God, I do believe I matter to you and I do believe that Jesus Christ is my Saviour and Lord.”*

Perhaps this sounds too simple.

But it is that simple and easy to come into the arms and loving care of God.

**John 3:16** [NIV] *“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.”*

**This is the greatest proclamation that has ever been made to every human being who will ever live.**

**Believe it, have faith in it, and live by it from now until the end of our physical lives.**