



-- **Christmas Sermon Series: Four "P's" for Christmas from John 3:16**

- 1.) The Christmas Premise: Love
- 2.) The Christmas Problem: Sin
- 3.) The Christmas Prospect: Faith
- 4.) The Christmas Promise: Eternal Life

-- **The premise of Christmas is the **Love** of God in Christ.**

"For God..."

1.) Christmas reveals **God .**

-- **God is where Christmas begins.**

- The miracle of Christmas makes clear that there is a God who acts in the world.
- The fulfillment of prophecy reveals a God who is sovereign.
- The virgin birth alone demands the hand of a God who works in history.

-- **The implications of this truth are entirely life-changing.**

- Pause this Christmas and remind yourself: "There is a God, and everything good begins with Him."
- Since everything good begins with God then everything about **Me** should begin with Him as well.

-- *"For God **so loved the world...**"*

2.) Christmas reveals God's love for the **World.**

-- **The God revealed at Christmas is a God of love.**

- Christmas teaches us that the God who exists is a God who loves (1 John 4:7-8).

- Only the one true God revealed in Jesus Christ engages us as the God who loves people.
- God's love for the world—the premise of Christmas—is profoundly **Encouraging** (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17).
- *Because God is characterized by His love for people, shouldn't we be as well?*
- *"For God so loved the world **that He gave...**"*

3.) Christmas reveals God's love for the world in **Giving**.

- **The essence of love is making sacrifices for others** (John 15:13, 1 John 3:16-17).
 - Anyone unwilling to sacrifice for others cannot love because sacrifice is the nature of true love.

-- *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only **begotten** Son..."*

4.) Christmas reveals God's love for the world in giving His **Son**.

- **It is an amazing reality that that God has a Son.**
 - We are made God's children by adoption in Christ.
 - God's "only begotten Son," on the contrary, is not a Son by creation or adoption, but by begetting (John 1:1-2).
 - In calling the Son of God the "only begotten Son," Jesus distinguishes Himself as the uniquely eternal divine Son of God.
- **God shows us His love by giving us His Son.**
 - *"God so loved"* means *"God loved in this way."*
 - God's love is revealed in the great **Worth** of His gift (1 John 4:9-10).
 - God's love is revealed in the **Unworthiness** of its recipients.
 - It ought to amaze us that God would give His Son for sinful, ungrateful, and rebellious people! (Eph. 2:4-5, Rom. 5:6-8).
 - God's love gives its best for the benefit of others, even when they don't deserve it.

-- **Application: **Love** as God has loved you (1 John 4:11-12).**

- **The premise of Christmas is the love of God in Christ.**
 - Because God operates out of love, so must we.
 - Because God loves people, so must we.
 - Because God loves sacrificially, so must we (Ephesians 5:1-2).
- The first response to God's gift of Christ is to receive Christ in faith.

- The second response to God's gift of Christ is to love others enough to give them Christ.
- To live a life that matters is to live a life of **Love**.