

# ALAN TAYLOR

P O BOX 700623; TULSA, OK 74170-0623

918-447-8951

alantaylorministries.org

## The Depth of His Love

So, how are you doing? I appreciate you so much! As you can see I am emphasizing on the word “so” today. It is such a small word that we use every day, but it can mean many things. In one scripture I've discovered a deeper meaning, and once I understood its proper meaning I truly began to appreciate the sacrifice of love from God towards me!

I'm talking about the most famous verse of the Bible John 3:16 and I want to focus on this wording “so”. In most Bibles, this verse is translated as *“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.”* This is a beautiful and meaningful quote of Jesus Himself, and I always interpreted it as God loved the world “so very” much. As in to emphasize that God loved the World soooooooooo much that He was willing to give His Son for us.

This is a great understanding yet there is so much more to this than meets the eye. Some translations read *“for God loved the world in this way that He gave.”* This again can be looked at as the great love that He has for the world. However, with just a little more investigation we can discover the depth of the sacrifice that was made on our behalf. Most people don't realize the verses before and after John 3:16 and therefore don't realize it's true power.

If we look at a few verses in front, then we can see that same word “so” as it says *“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up.”* Here it is clear that the son of man must be lifted up “in the same way” as the serpent was lifted up. In the Greek, we can use: In the manner spoken of, in the way described or in the way it was done to replace the word “so.”

This is very important because it helps us to see the price that was paid because of His love for us. The children of Israel were crying out to Moses for help. They had sinned against God and were asking Moses for an answer from God. They had spoken against God and against Moses and stepped into the wrath of God.

Numbers 21:6-9 *“So the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died. Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD that He take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. Then the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, shall live.” So Moses made a bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.”*

God's answer to cure them from the poison inside of them was to look upon the very thing that had caused the poison. Then, in the same way, described for them that Jesus was lifted

up upon a cross for us to look upon in faith as our savior. The price for Him as the perfect lamb of God to become the very sin that was destroying everyone in the world. It says in 2 Corinthians 5:21 *"For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."*

The entirety of mankind was poisoned with darkness, Adam's actions condemned each human to this desperation of facing the wrath of God because of sin in our nature. We were each born with this poison coursing through our veins, and there was only one answer and only one way to freedom. There was no possible path to survive from the snake bite of Satan on this earth. We were all destined to die until Jesus allowed himself to become the very thing that bit us... sin. We have no comprehension of the cost Heaven paid just to give us the opportunity to look upon Jesus. To be cured of a nature of sin by faith alone, unearned and undeserved because of His amazing love.

Like the old hymn says:

He paid a debt He did not owe  
I owed a debt I could not pay  
I needed someone to wash my sins away  
And now I sing a brand new song  
Amazing Grace  
Christ Jesus paid a debt that I could never pay.

God "in the way described," "in the same manner," "in the way it was done," loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son. Please take a moment and slowly read these next verses with me. Let us fully embrace His love for you and for me. It is the greatest love ever seen.

John 3:14-18

*"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. 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. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."*

You are loved.

**ALAN TAYLOR**

P O BOX 700623; TULSA, OK 74170-0623

918-447-8951

alantaylorministries.org