

Under condemnation of sin...doomed to die...could anything be more wonderful than to receive authentic news that your sins are forgiven and you will not need to die for your sins, nor perish.

V. The Wonder of Eternity

Here is something which we cannot comprehend. We read "Eternal life" and simply drift off in our imagination and get lost.

But we read because sinful men and women believe they have life eternal.

It is eternal life, everlasting, without measure, that is the assurance we have in this text.

God does not leave us to ourselves, does not mean merely physical existence, nor annihilation, but in the great day of consummation it will reveal life in the future age...in the realm of glory. This is a possession of the believer here and now.

The adjective everlasting occurs 17 times in the fourth gospel, 6 times in 1 John, always with the noun life. It indicates a life that is different in quality from the life which characterizes the present age.

Actually - Never - Ending - life!

We think of people who live in fear of death, they are under the sentence of sin, they are in danger of perishing now and forever.

But here is assurance of eternal life if they will believe in God's only begotten son.

The soul must cooperate with God, because of our faith he rewards us with everlasting life.

Wonder of wonders!

You can

1. Accept His love - result eternal life
2. Reject His love - result (1) awful guilt
(2) lost of eternal life
John 5:40
(3) eternal punishment

Heb. 10:26-31

Oh, what a wonder, that Jesus found me
Out in the darkness, no light could I see
Oh, what a wonder,
He put His great arm under,
And wonder of wonders, He saved even me.

WONDER OF WONDERS

John 3:16

Intro: This world of ours impresses us with many wonderful things. We wonder at the majestic mountains rising up out of the plains. Out of the desert Sandia Crest rises to almost 11,000 feet...what a wonder.

The ocean stretches out into the limitless distance and we are in awe at its beauty.

The deep caves impress us with all their beauty and we say, "how did this happen?" Natural Bridge -

The wonder of big trees in California--large and tall reaching the clouds almost.

The wonder of flowers all over this world--only God can make a flower.

There are wonders of man's invention--wonder of travel... to be able, within a few hours, to reach most any point on the globe is really a wonder...traveling with safety, convenience, and speed!

Think of the wonders in science...heart operations...salk vaccine...radio...T.V. and the end is not yet.

The launching of a satellite...some of our members visited the planetarium at Chapel Hill last week, and they said the professor explained its movement and how it operated. planets...stars...and the wonders increase.

I desire to speak on the wonder of wonders this morning. This is perhaps the most remarkable statement the world ever heard. There are volumes packed into that little sentence. The verse tells us of God's attitude toward the world, God's attitude toward sin, God's attitude towards His Son, God's attitude toward all who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and God's attitude toward all who do not believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.

I. THE Wonder of Divinity

The second word brings us to this wonder...God. The divine creator of the universe.

The stars in the heavens and the planets near and far were called into existence by our God. He called into existence the planet on which we live, and everything that is on it...who can bring into being the stars of the heavens?

The world has been startled by the power of the Atomic bomb that can destroy a city in a few minutes. We fail to realize the Power of God spoke this universe into being, and that this divine God is not too great nor too busy to be concerned with what we are pleased to think is his highest creation, namely man.

The wonder of wonders is that God consented and decided to make man in His own image. This is a wonder beyond comprehension.

In order to gain some conception of the Deity it will never to do to subtract from the popular concept every possible attribute until literally nothing is left. God is ever full of life and full of love. Take all human virtues; then raise them to the nth degree, and realize that no matter how grand and glorious a total picture is formed in the mind, even that is a mere shadow of the love-life which exists eternally in the heart of him whose very name is love.

II. The Wonder of Affection

Here we see this wonderful God with all of the universe in his hand. We see Him expressing Himself as a lover of men and women...Men and women have strayed from this love and yet the marvel is that this wonderful God has been so wonderful as to love these lost men and women.

Wonder of wonders God's love reaches down to the needy of every land and every race and every tribe.

This shows God's love in action, reaching back into eternity and coming to fruition in Bethlehem and at Calvary, is viewed as one, great, central fact. That love was rich and true, full of understanding, tenderness and majesty.

Every sinner is loved by this wonderful love of the wonderful God. We cannot begin to measure the significance of this to our own lives and hearts. How good it is to know that the God we worship, while a God of power, has as his greatest quality love.

III. The wonder of giving

The gift is the expression of the Love which is so wonderful. If these were just words then they would not mean so much, but we are not left to this fashion...He gave his only son...wonder of wonders.

The great emphasis is on the astounding greatness of the gift...He gave...He gave unto death as an offering for sin. John said God gave...1 John 3:16. Paul said God Spared not, Rom. 8:32.

Only son - we hear the echo of Gen. 22:2 "Take now thy son thine only son, whom thou lovest, even Isaac..."

Willing to send to this ungrateful world...willing for his son to descend into this realm of misery, to pitch his tent for a while among sinful men.

Here we see a God who consents and stoops to take upon himself the form of man in order that he might provide for the salvation of the human race.

This is a wonder of wonders the giving of this Gift by God's love.

IV. The Wonder of Pardon

"Should not perish" believeth

Wonder of wonders that man doomed to destruction and death and ruin has had revealed to him from this wonderful God a plan of redemption...salvation.

This pardon includes every lost man and woman in all the earth...Isa. 55:7.

The world - whosoever, does not mean birds or trees but all of mankind.

All are exposed to the judgment and stand in need of salvation.

Like a mirror horribly blurred, so fallen mankind of all races are in need of this pardon.

Men of all classes...that God should love the good is not hard to understand, but that God should love the vile, the outcast, the worthless, the vicious, the criminal, that is the thing that is hard of comprehension, but that is what the Bible tells us. Rom. 5:7-8

As impossible as it seems, God loves men and provides pardon, upon the mere condition that they would accept His love. Millions of people made in His image have marred their lives by sin, and He is willing to save them because of the love he has for them.

There are people all over this world who have accepted this wonderful gift, and have come to know that their sins have been forgiven and they have been pardoned. They are not to perish now...wonder of wonders!