SERMON NOTES

**Easter 2025**

“For God So Loved the World”

**John 3: 14 – 18**

**In a better and surpassing way than Moses and the bronze serpent of Numbers 21, anyone who looks to the resurrected Lord Jesus in faith and trust that God will use this means to save them will be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Because God is the opposite of sin – God is holy – He cannot be around or tolerate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**All that matters – in order to be saved from the deadly bite of sin is to trust in faith and obey what God has said will be the means of salvation: looking to Jesus who was lifted up for us on the cross and lifted up for us from the dead, in faith believing that God will use this work as the means for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**The work of salvation - all that Easter accomplished - was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ plan.**

**Old Testament books and Jewish writings never speak of God loving the world, only Israel, but Jesus tells Nicodemus of God’s love for the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!**

**The Greek word “cosmos”, translated world, is used 186 times in the New Testament, always in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ describing sin and sin’s patterns.**

**It was to the world – to sinful people - that God sent His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**God’s love is not sentimental or superficial. God’s love for the world led to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the sending of His Son.**

**The lifting up of Jesus unto death and ultimately to life was proof of God’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**It is the love of God \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that initiates salvation.**

**If while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?!**

**God loved me in the sending of Jesus, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I loved Him and before I was loving to Him.**

**The phrase only son / begotten son does not mean that Jesus was created in that moment of His being sent by the Father but rather Jesus existed before the sending of the Son; like God He has always \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Salvation is free but it is not cheap; it cost the life of the only Son. God chose to give us His Son instead of what we deserve: just and deserving \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ punishment for our sin.**

**The horror of the cross means grace for me, if I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Whosever means anyone, whosever means \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**No one is too far off from the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of God.**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_stands in the way of me and Jesus. There is nothing that can hinder His grace coming to me, except my own refusal to turn to Him.**

**Notice that the word \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is contrasted and compared against eternal life: these are the two destinations that all people will have. If you believe in the Son lifted up you will inherit eternal life, if you reject this offer you will inherit what your sins justly deserve, eternal death.**

**Jesus came to save a world that was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by sin.**

**God did not so love the world that He sent Jesu to a neutral earth and a neutral people. He sent Him to a people and to a world that was condemned \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**To believe is to put your full \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in everything about Jesus: all that He said, commanded, and accomplished.**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the Son begins with accepting the sacrifice of Him who was lifted up to life and to death as the only means to be forgiven of sin and reconciled to God.**

**We must look to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ work of Jesus, knowing that whoever believes in Him is not condemned but has eternal life.**

Blanks: saved; sin; forgiveness; God’s; world; negative; Son; action; love; first; life; before; existed; eternal; believe; me; grace; Nothing; perish; condemned; already; trust; obedience; finished;

Congregational Scripture Reading – 2 Peter 3: 9 – 10

The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you,not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.