

Does God Really Care?

Introduction. John 3:16 tells us that God so loved (He cares) that He gave. Where can we best see that God really does care and give?

- I. In Gethsemane.
 - A. In Matthew 26:39 Jesus says that He will be in the heart of the earth for three days and three nights. How can this be?
 - B. Matthew 26:36-39 “exceeding sorrowful, even unto death”. The first of the three nights begin in Gethsemane.
 1. Giving Luke 22:41-44 “nevertheless not my will, but Thine be done.” Is there some way out for Jesus? Like Abraham & Issac? After asking three times, Jesus gives His will to God and is willing to drink the cup that all sinners must drink even though this means separation from God.
 2. Caring Even though Jesus is described as being in the bosom of the Father (John 1:18) and possessing a relationship with God of absolute intimacy and love, Jesus made the decision to have that relationship severed by taking upon Himself the sins of the world and dying the second death.
 - C. The ordeal is so terrible that Jesus had to be strengthened by an angel before He could go on. Luke 22:43
- II. On the Cross.
 - A. Matthew 27:46 “My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?”
 1. Giving Jesus gives up the feelings of intimacy that He has always had with His Father and receives in its place the feelings of despair that the wicked suffer when they perish at the second death.
 2. Caring Love that is stronger than death is demonstrated. Jesus focuses on the promises of Scripture, i.e., Psalms 22:1 and Psalms 16:8-11, and through faith “sees the travail of His soul, and is satisfied.” Isaiah 53:11
- III. But When Did God Suffer?
 - A. 1 Peter 1:18-20 His suffering began when the solution for sin was determined before the foundation of the world.
 - B. 2 Corinthians 5:17-19 He was suffering with Christ, perhaps even more because He could do nothing to aid Him.