

Taj Mahal



Monument to Eternal Love

The Taj Mahal sits like a jewel on the plains of Agra in Northern India. Shah Jahan, who built the Taj Mahal, was a Mogul Ruler who reigned in the seventeenth century. He spared no expense in the lavish construction of the famous building. Twenty thousand workers labored for over twenty years on what would be one of the world's most beautiful buildings.

Although Taj Mahal means Crowned Palace, it is, in fact, a mausoleum. Shah Jahan built the Taj Mahal as a tribute to his wife whom he loved dearly.

Because of the building's beauty and Shah Jahan's heartfelt affection for his wife, a poet described the Taj Mahal as a Monument to Eternal Love.

Eternal love, what a phrase! With poetic license men may use the phrase to describe the bond between husband and wife. Yet, in a stricter sense, the phrase eternal love can only rightly describe the love in God's heart since He alone inhabits eternity. For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place (Isaiah 57:15). Before the universe was created He inhabited eternity. He inhabits eternity now, and He will inhabit eternity when time and this world are no more. He is the Uncaused Cause, the great I am, the Architect of the universe who spoke a word and the world leapt into existence.

Does He love the people He created? Jeremiah the prophet wrote, The LORD of old hath appeared to me saying, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee (Jeremiah 31:3). The answer to the question, Does God love?, is a resounding yes! And oh how He loves! Sometimes the smallest words have deep meaning and this is the case with the little word so in the Bible verse John 3:16.

God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Shah Jahan showed that he loved his wife by building the Taj Mahal. God showed that He so loved the world that He gave his beloved Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, so whoever believes on Him has eternal life.

Also, God so loved the world He sent his Son, so they who sat in darkness might see a great light in his coming.

God so loved the world His Son went to Calvary's cross where the Just One suffered for the unjust, so He might bring us to God.

God so loved the world the precious blood that was shed at Calvary is able to wash the vilest sinner clean from sin, so a sinner is able to enjoy the presence of God for eternity.

God so loved the world He raised the Lord Jesus from the grave, so those who believe on Jesus have the assurance of resurrection life and paradise after they die.

God so loves the world He sends the Good News of the Gospel to all the corners of the earth, so sinners may find great joy and peace in believing the gospel of God's eternal love.

God doesn't desire that anyone should build Him a great and beautiful monument out of cold stone to commemorate His eternal love. As the living God, He wants only living monuments. He wants men and women to become these living monuments. They become a living monument to God's love by realizing their lost and sinful condition and believing on the Lord Jesus Christ for their soul's salvation.

Once a person is saved through faith, He wants them to live so that they can say the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God (Galatians 2:20). Living by faith is the only way to show forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light (1 Peter 2:9). Thus He takes poor guilty sinners and makes them trophies of His grace. As trophies, they shall enjoy in the light of God's glory for time and eternity.

A song-writer once wrote:

O have you not heard of that wonderful love,
That flows from God's heart so free,
Which led Him to give for a perishing world
His Son to be nailed to the tree?

Oh won't you believe God's wonderful eternal love and put your trust in the Lord Jesus for eternal life? BP