

God did not send His son into the world to condemn the world -Lesson #11

John 3:16 -This is **how** God loved the world: **HE gave His only Son**, so that whoever believes in Him would not perish but have eternal life.

This is **the way God loved us**. In v17, John continues from v16, identifying God's **purpose**, the **reason for** sending His Son into the world.

John wants us to understand -- what God has done and **is** doing through Jesus-- so that there is no confusion about the **purpose and goal** of God's love.

Luke 19:10 "for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

To those who were lost in sin and under condemnation, John 3:17-18.

Galatians 4:4-5 – "But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, **born under the law**, v5 **to redeem those --who were under the law**, that we might receive the adoption as sons."

- God did not send His Son --because He was angry with the world.
- God did not send his Son --into the world to condemn the world.

These statements --are often taken out of context and used to suggest that since **GOD is love**, He would --never judge or condemn anyone.

Notice, v18, how it **explains the reason** that God did not send his Son into the world, to condemn the world. **WHY?**

- **Because the world** --was already under condemnation, ever since Adam & Eve both disobeyed God's **ONE prohibition**,

Genesis 2:17 "but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall **NOT** eat, for in the day that you eat of it **you shall surely die.**"

Romans 5:12 "Therefore, just as through one man (Adam) sin entered the world, and death through sin, and **thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.**"

Because "**all have sinned**, and fallen short of the glory of God" (the word sinned is shown as **past-tense**, but in the Greek manuscripts, **it's present tense**, **past, present, and future continually**), falling short of the glory of God, **Romans 5:23**

Notice v18: not believing in Jesus does not condemn us; we are under condemnation, because **all have sinned**.

John wants to move our thinking away from the idea that we --are good people deserving of eternal life – **Romans 3:10**—"as it is written, **there is none righteous**, no not one."

Psalms 53:3 "All have turned away, **they have together become corrupt**; there is no one who does good, not even one".

We were born under condemnation!

- Doing nothing maintains our condition
- Not believing does not condemn us...
- Something must happen in order to change the outcome of our condemnation.

If **nothing happens** --to change the outcome, then we will remain -in the condemnation of our sins, and according to **v16**, "**we will all likewise perish**".

Jesus did not come --to a morally neutral world; He came into a world **engulfed in spiritual darkness**, a world already under condemnation, for sins committed – **Genesis 3:15**

2nd Peter 3:9 – "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, **not willing** that any should perish, but that **ALL** should come to repentance".

The KJV's wording, "not willing that any should perish –willing makes it sound as if God does not will or allow that anyone to perish or judge anyone!

However, in the 17th century, the English word **willing** carried more of the idea of desire than of volition.

Many translations render it correctly as "**not wanting**" any to perish!

In no sense does 2 Peter 3:9-- support the idea of Calvinism's Tulip doctrine of election, that GOD arbitrarily decides who will be saved, and who won't be saved!

To interpret "not willing that any should perish" as "He does not allow anyone to perish" results in the false doctrine of universalism.

God did not desire for sin to enter the world, yet through the fall (the sin of Adam and Eve, God allowed it to happen. In fact, it was part of His sovereign plan of salvation, before the world was created!.

Ephesians 1:4 The Bible says that God "chose us (that's you and me) in Him (in Christ Jesus), "before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,

Christ's death and resurrection were not accidents; God planned them from all eternity. God loves you that much!

- **God did not desire** -His only begotten Son to be rejected, and betrayed, and brutally tortured, and murdered on a cross, yet **GOD allowed it**. This, too, was part of God's sovereign plan.

Further, "to not believe in the Son of God" is to leave ourselves-- yet in our sins and under condemnation.

Biblical Belief --is not an acknowledgment or a confession, but a life of transformation.

- Jesus described it as being “begotten from above, anew.” **John 3:**
- Begotten of water and the Spirit.

This is the new heart and the new life that seeks to obey and desires the ways of the Lord. Because Jesus is **the only way** out of our sinfulness.

- Jesus is the only remedy, the only solution, to be set free from our condemnation.
- To use the imagery of **vs 14-15**, Jesus is the only way to participate in the First-resurrection and be delivered from the second death.

The Verdict --John 3:19-20. The judicial sentence has been passed. The **NIV** paints a clear picture: “**This is the verdict.**”

The verdict is sobering. The image of being in a courtroom, listening to the jury’s verdict, “for the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil.” **John 3:19.**

- **The Light has come**, but men_____ love darkness, as demonstrated in their evil deeds.
- **There are even those who have been baptized**, but the **only thing that changed was the clothes they wore** in the baptistry

And something is very wrong – **Houston, we have a problem!!**

If there is **NO change**, if there is **NO transformation** – If **Nothing has changed** in your life, how you live, how you talk, and how you walk – There is **NO hope** of Heaven, and it is **HELL** without Jesus.... If there is **No change**, there is **No hope** of Heaven – and it's **HELL** without Jesus!

Mark 9:43-44 – If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter **life** maimed, rather than having two hands, to go into **HELL**, into the fire that shall never be quenched, **v44** where their worm never dies, and the fire is not quenched...