

### **Evaluating Our Response to God's Light (John 3:16-21)**

<sup>16</sup> "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. <sup>17</sup> "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. <sup>18</sup> "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. <sup>19</sup> "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup> "For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. <sup>21</sup> "But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

#### **GOD'S ACTION: God Gives His Son (John 3:16-18)**

##### **1. God's ACTION – What Did God Do? (16a)**

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son..."

- a. **God took action**
- b. **God sacrificially cared for the world**
- c. **God gave His only begotten Son**

##### **2. God's INTENTION – Why Did God Do It? (16b-17)**

that whoever **believes** in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. <sup>17</sup> "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

**God so loved the world that He gave His Son**

- a. **In order that whoever believes might not perish but have everlasting life**

**God sent His Son into the world**

- b. **NOT in order that He might condemn the world**
- c. **BUT in order that He might save the world through Him**

##### **3. Our DECISION – What Must I Do? (18): Only Two Groups**

<sup>18</sup> "He who **believes** in Him is not condemned; but he who does not **believe** is condemned already, because he has not **believed** in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

- a. **Not "Do" (Nicodemus in John 3:1-8)**
- b. **BELIEVING on Jesus = Not Presently Condemned (Judged)**
- c. **NOT BELIEVING on Jesus = Already Condemned (Judged)**
- d. **Why? Because he has not BELIEVED on Jesus**

### **OUR ACTION: Respond to God's Light (John 3:19-21)**

#### **1. Condemnation: Why Are People UNDER JUDGMENT? (19)**

<sup>19</sup> "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

- a. **Revelation: Light has come (→) into the world**
- b. **Rejection: Men LOVED darkness rather than the light**
- c. **Reason: Because "were being (...) evil their deeds"**

#### **2. Explanation: Only Two Groups of Deed-Doers**

##### **a. Those that are practicing evil deeds**

<sup>20</sup> "For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.

- **Are hating the light**
- **Are not coming to the light**
- **To avoid deed rebuke (2 Tim 4:2; noun: 2 Tim 3:16 "reproof")**

##### **b. Those that are doing the truth**

<sup>21</sup> "But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

- **Are coming to the light**
- **To have deeds openly evaluated**
- **To have deeds divinely affirmed**

### **TAKEAWAYS**

**Have you believed in Jesus?**

**Are you responding to the truth?**