

WE BELIEVE

THE FOUNDATIONS OF OUR FAITH

PART 3: JESUS FIXES IT

Pastor Brian Jenkins

John 3:16-17

⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

SCRIPTURE

John 3:16-17

Watch this week's message online: nlchurch.com/watch.

OBSERVATION

In perhaps the most famous verse in all of Scripture, John shares Jesus' words to Nicodemus about the nature of salvation. Nicodemus was a religious leader who secretly visited Jesus to discover the true nature of his teachings. In this dialogue, Jesus communicates to Nicodemus that the only real solution to the questions about God and salvation comes only through Christ himself. Jesus' premise is also radical in that he says that salvation has come to the whole world, not just to the Jews.

- 1 Who does God love? What does this mean?
- 2 According to John 3:16, what is the condition for eternal life? What does it mean to believe in Christ?
- 3 Read verse 17 again. Why did God send Jesus into the world?

APPLICATION

We see the salvation that comes from Christ as a free gift. Many versions of Christianity, however, add unnecessary or even trivial requirements to salvation. Think of salvation as a valuable present. It is yours to open anytime you wish, and it is offered to all. Not all will open it, but all are welcome to. Once it is opened, it must be used and not discarded or ignored. And then, it is a wonderful gift that is meant to be shared.

1 What are some religious things we add to God's free gift?

2 Why would some people reject that gift?

3 How can you share it?

PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for the gift of Jesus Christ. Help me to accept the salvation he offers, use the faith I've been given, and share Your hope with the world around me, so that the "whomevers" in my life have access to the Gospel. Amen.

My take away today: _____

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