

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for February 14-15, 2004

"For God So Loved the World"

Part 3

John 3:16

What were the reflections of the Apostle John in John 3:16-21 that were generated by Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus in John 3:1-15?

In response to John 3:1-15, the Apostle John first of all reflected on the love of God for the world (John 3:16).

In response to John 3:1-15, the Apostle John secondly reflected on God's mission to the world (John 3:16-21).

John first of all described the rescue mission in terms of its cost.

John also described the rescue mission in terms of its benefits.

The first benefit of God's rescue mission for all those who believe is being delivered from God's final judgment.

The second benefit of God's rescue mission for all those who believe is that they will be granted the gift of eternal life.

The phrase "eternal life" does not simply mean living eternally. Every person who has ever lived will live eternally.

Eternal life comprises all the wonderful things that come to us as a result of our spiritual union with the life of Christ.

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One of the wonderful things that comes to those who have been spiritually joined to Christ is the confident expectation that we will become better people (1 John 3:3).

We are not joined to Christ to remain as we were (1 Thessalonians 5:24; Philippians 2:13).

Christ did not die simply that we might be saved from a bad conscience, or even to remove the stain of past failure, but to "clear the decks" for divine action (Romans 5:10).

Christ, in matters pertaining to His will and work, is only limited by the measure of our availability (Colossians 2:9-10).

Christ will accomplish His work in and through us as we walk by faith (Romans 1:17).

In order to unleash by faith the power of the indwelling Christ, we must first of all have a settled conviction about what we believe God's will is for our lives.

In order to unleash by faith the power of the indwelling Christ to do His will, we must then present ourselves to God as a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1-2).

God, in Christ Jesus, has supplied us with all the resources necessary to work out His will in our lives as we walk by faith.