

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for February 28-29, 2004

"For God So Loved the World"

John 3:16

Part 4

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 rescue mission to the world (John 3:16-21).

John, in reflecting on God's rescue mission, first of all described it in terms of its cost.

John, in reflecting on God's rescue mission also describes 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.

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

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).

Another wonderful thing that comes to those who have been joined to the life of Christ is the confident expectation of a better future (Revelation 21:1-4).

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

There are four features of this better future outlined for us in Revelation 21:1-4.

The first feature of this better future in Revelation 21:1-4 is the appearance of the new heaven and new earth (Revelation 21:1).

There are a number of passages that teach us that God will one day destroy the current heavens and earth (Isaiah 65:17; 66:22; 2 Peter 3:12-13).

The term new (KAINOS) indicates new in a qualitative sense. In other words, it is emphasizing that the heavens and earth will be far different than what we have known.

The second feature of this better future in Revelation 21:1-4 is the capital of the new heaven and new earth (Revelation 21:2).

The holy city that John saw coming down out of heaven I believe, is the very thing that Christ promised He would prepare for His disciples in John 14:1-3.

The holy city that John saw coming down out of heaven, I believe is also the very thing that the Lord promised Abraham in Hebrews 11:8-10.

The eternal abode of every Old Testament or New Testament saint is the holy city that John saw coming out of heaven from God.

The third feature of this better future in Revelation 21:1-4 is that God will dwell with us (Revelation 21:3).

The fourth feature of this better future in Revelation 21:1-4 is what we leave behind (Revelation 21:4).

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

If we have exercised faith in Christ, not only will we be assured of becoming a better person, but also we will be assured of a better future, and this is eternal