

John 3:16-36 – God Loved so God Gave

This part of the Gospel of John contains one of the most well known verses in the Bible. This section also talks about why God sent Jesus into the world. The primary reason God sent Jesus into the world was not to be a teacher. It was not to model how to be a good person so that we would be better people. It was not to heal the sick. It was not to feed the hungry. Jesus did these things but it wasn't the primary reason why he came into our world.

Read John 3:16-21.

From verse 16, what do we learn about God? What do we learn about Jesus? What do we learn about people?

Why did God send Jesus into the world? What problem existed in the world so that it needed to be saved? What does it mean that Jesus was not sent to condemn [judge] the world? (3:17)

What is true of people who believe in Jesus? What is true of people who do not believe in Jesus? (3:18)

Verse 19 says that there is a judgment. Who hates the light? Why do these people hate the light? (3:19-20)

Who comes to the light? Why do these people come to the light? (3:21)

Read John 3:22-30

From verse 22, where did Jesus and his disciples go? What did they do there?

Who was also near where Jesus was? What was he doing there? (3:23-24)

When a discussion [debate] occurred between John the Baptist's disciples and a Jew [some Jews] about purification, what did John's disciples ask him? What was really on their minds? (3:25-26)

Summarize John's response to his disciples in verses 27-30.

What can we learn from John the Baptist about looking at another ministry which has more people than we do? Is big always better?

What did John the Baptist know about the purpose of his own ministry? (3:28) What did John the Baptist know about Jesus? (3:28-30)

Read John 3:31-36

What is true of the one who comes from heaven? (3:31-32, 34-35) What is true of the person who is of the earth? (3:31)

It should be obvious that it is better to listen to the one who came from heaven instead of someone who is earthly. In general, did people receive the one from heaven? (3:32)

What was true of those who receive the testimony of Jesus and who believe in him? (3:33, 36)

What is true of those who do not obey [believe] the Son of God? (3:36)