John Lesson 9

Robert Harkrider · John 3:16 · Series: **John**

INTRODUCTION

- In John chapter 3, 16, we find one of the most memorized and most oft-quoted verses of the Bible, certainly one of the most loved verses.
- It is sometimes referred to as the miniature gospel.

1 God So Loved the World

Isaiah 43:10–11; 1 John 3:1; Romans 3:23

- For God, the greatest being.
- God so loved describes the greatest measure.
- God so loved the world, and we'd have to describe that as the greatest need.
- By choice, man is a sinner. We have done that which is contrary to God's will. And therefore we are in need.

2 That He Gave Is the Greatest Act

Romans 5:7–8; 1 John 4:9

- That he gave is the greatest act.
- But God commendeth his love toward us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
- Would you give your child to die for one who has sinned against you? For one who is your enemy? That's the kind of gift that God has given to us.
- It is not that Jesus was one of many, but rather Jesus is the only begotten Son of God.

3 Whosoever Believeth: The Greatest Provision

1 Timothy 2:4; Ephesians 2:8–9

- This gift of God is for all, whosoever.
- That whosoever believeth in him, and that is the greatest provision ever made for man.
- For by grace are you saved through faith, and that not of yourselves. It is the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast.

4 The Greatest Deliverance and the Greatest Reward

Ezekiel 18:20; John 3:36; Revelation 21:3–4

- Should not perish. And this could be described as the greatest deliverance.
- The dividing line or the difference between the saved and the lost is belief.
- He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life, and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him.
- But have everlasting life, the greatest reward, that there is eternal life non ending.

5 Nothing Only Will Save

John 12:42–43; John 3:5; James 2:24

- The word only is not in John 3.16, and neither should this verse be taken and isolated as though it tells us all that is involved in salvation.
- The scripture definitely says they believed. But were they saved by just mentally believing Jesus to be the Christ? They wouldn't confess him.
- Saving belief is an obedient belief. In fact, the Bible nowhere says that anything only will save.
- Repentance is necessary, but repentance alone won't save. Confession is necessary, but confession alone will not save.

6 Saving Faith Is an Obedient Faith

Hebrews 5:8–9; Ephesians 2:10; James 2:14–26

- If you can't read it in the Bible, it is not a step of faith.
- He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him.
- For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained, that we should walk in them.
- Faith only is a dead faith. In fact, faith only will be a lost faith.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Will you turn to God's word and have obedient faith? Won't you repent of your sins, confessing your faith, and be buried into his death by baptism?**

MY NOTES