

Episode 1-17 - Whoever Believes

I. The purpose of the gospel of John is to produce believers in the fact that Jesus is the Christ, the One anointed by God to be the Savior of the world, and that Jesus is the Son of God, God represented in human form.

II. Last time, we discussed “the water and the wind,” as the Lord said taught Nicodemus about being “born from above,” and being born of the Spirit. Now, we will consider what further lessons our author John teaches us regarding believing, and consider the famous verse John 3:16.

III. John’s discourse. Verses 13-21.

A. Original Greek: no spaces between words, capitals, punctuation. Beginning and ending of quotations is a guess. Usually obvious, but not here. I think Christ’s quotation stops in verse 12, John the author speaks from 13.

1. Was Christ lying when said Son of Man “IS” in heaven?

2. “Only begotten Son” never used by Christ, only John (ch. 1, I Jn 4:9)

3. “In the name of” by John, not the Lord (John 1, 2, I John 5:13.)

4. Verb tenses show His sacrifice already made when this is spoken.

B. No one ascended to heaven. But what about Enoch and Elijah?

1. Did not ascend on their own, were brought there.

2. “Heaven” is singular, usually plural. Here means God.

C. Verse 14. Numbers 21:4-9. Looking at serpent an act of faith; like Christ.

D. Verse 15. Not this life saved, but eternal life. “Live for the eon,” kingdom.

E. Verse 16. Lifted up because God loved world! “Only begotten” = unique. Whoever believes, remember John’s purpose. Eonian life.

F. Verse 17. Send = apostello. Condemn = krino, “judge.” Rather to save.

G. Verse 18. He who believes not judged! He who refuses judged already.

H. Verse 19. How judged? Light in world. John 1. Loved darkness because evil.

I. Verse 20. Those who live wicked do not want deeds exposed by God’s light.

J. Verse 21. Those who produce truth come to light, want deeds exposed.

IV. John sets forth Christ as an object of faith, for us to look on and believe. Like the serpent in the wilderness, He will be the standard for who lives and who dies when the time comes. Salvation comes by faith. Lack of faith means condemnation. Light is desirable to the righteous, hateful to the wicked.