

**Series "Jesus: God And Savior"
"Whoever Believes"
John 3:11-21
Part-9**

John 3:15 – "so that whoever believes"

John 3:16 – "whoever believes"

John 3:18 – "He who believes"

John 3:1-21 – Jesus' encounter with the religious leader Nicodemus.

Public Ministry: (3 years) John 1:19-12:50.

Theme Of John – "Jesus: God And Savior"

Thought Of Our Passage: "The Test Of Every Person Is Whether They Will Believe In Jesus Or Remain In Their Lost State."

1. Verses 11-12 – The Difficulty Of Unbelief

2. Verses 13-17 – The Remedy To Unbelief

3. Verses 18-21 – Consequences Of Unbelief

1. Verses 11-12 – The Difficulty Of Unbelief:

John 3:11 – "Truly, truly, I say to you," – "This is the truth." Jesus is having a conversation with a Pharisee named Nicodemus. John 3:1-21 – John 3:3.

John 3:9-10

"Truly, truly, I say to you," – Jesus draws a line in the sand. There are only two options: you, or we.

John 3:2

"and testify of what we have seen," – The acts of God.

"and you do not accept our testimony." – John 1:11

John 3:12

"and you do not believe," – Unbelief is a sin, rejection of the truth, unwilling to admit that oneself is a sinner in need of a Savior.

The Difficulty Of Unbelief – Nicodemus intellectually thought of Jesus as a teacher. He would not see Jesus as Savior. 1 Corinthians 2:14

2. Verses 13-17 – The Remedy To Unbelief:

John 3:13

The Authority Of Jesus Is His Deity: "No one has ascended into heaven, but He who descended from heaven:" – Proverbs 30:4

John 13:3

Our salvation is totally dependent upon Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

"the Son of Man." – Used 13X in John; 80X in the Gospels. Jesus is saying "I am the Divine Son of God!" Ezekiel 2:1-3 – His humanity; Daniel 7:13 – His Messiah-ship.

Verses 14-15 – Greatest Illustration Of The Cross: John 3:14

Acts 10:43

Numbers 21 – is A Story of Sin. At the same time it is A Story of Grace. (During the 40 years in the wilderness)

Numbers 21:4-9

The Setting Up of the serpent on a poll was by the command of God; God instituted it: The Cross Was God's Plan.

The serpent on the poll symbolized sin, and God's way of saving men who were under the condemnation of sin and were suffering from its effects. Jesus came in likeness of sinful flesh: 2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 3:13.

Deliverance was available on the basis of faith, not works. The suffering only had to look (Believe) at the serpent.

The serpent was placed on a standard, a banner or staff; it was a cross; it was lifted up.

The destiny of each person was determined by their response to God's invitation, through believing God's Word of grace for them.

The Basis By Which God Grants The New Birth Is Faith In Jesus' Death On The Cross: "even so must the Son of Man be lifted up;"

"lifted up" – John 8:28; 12:32, 34

Romans 8:3

Jesus offers healing from spiritual death: Romans 6:23

John 3:15 – Believing In Order To Experience The New Birth.

“Whoever” – This is all-inclusive, which has no limit to race, color, or class but to any who are willing to believe.

“Believes” – “Not a momentary attraction but an irrevocable decision to depend only and forever upon the Savior.” Trying God is not an option!

“will in Him have eternal life.” – Used 15X by John. It’s quality and quantity of life.

John 3:16

“For God so loved the world,” – Not just loved, but So loved the world. John chose the verb “agape” for the first time in his writings. He used it 36X.

“that He gave” – Romans 8:32

“His only begotten Son,” – “The one of a kind Son of God.”

“believes in Him” – “to believe as true, to trust, to place confidence in.”

“shall not perish,” – “to be destroyed, to be utterly lost.”

John 3:17

The Purpose For Jesus Coming Was The Salvation Of A Lost World: “For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world,”

“but that the world might be saved through Him.” – Luke 19:10

The Remedy To Unbelief: To humble yourself, and to believe what God has said and done through His Son Jesus Christ. God loved us while we were yet sinners and sent Jesus to die so we could be saved.

3. Verses 18-21 – Consequences Of Unbelief:

John 3:18

Romans 8:1-2

“he who does not believe has been judged already,” – The logical consequences of unbelief are judgment.

God here divides the saved and the unsaved clearly in these verses. The saved believe and are not condemned; the unsaved do not believe and are condemned.

“already,” – We exist in a state of condemnation by birth – our sin natures inherited from Adam. We enter physical life in a state of spiritual death and then our sin natures compound the problem with sinful behavior.

Acts 4:12

John 3:19

“that the Light has come into the world,” – The “Light” is Jesus!

John 3:20

“For everyone who does evil hates the Light,” – It is the evil character; the rejection is because of their character.

John 3:21 – Belief and Obedience Go Together.

Hezekiah, 700 years later, destroyed this serpent on a pole. 2 Kings 18:4

Application:

1. The Sin Of Unbelief Keeps A Person From Acknowledging Who Jesus Is. Unbelief Will Not See Jesus As Savior Because That Would Then Be Admitting That We Are Lost.
2. The Remedy For Unbelief Is Knowing That Salvation Cannot Be Earned. It Can Only Be Received As A Free Gift. We Accept God’s Gift Of Salvation By Faith Alone In Jesus Who Gives The Forgiveness Of Sin.
3. Jesus Makes It Clear That There Are Only Two Types Of People – The Saved Who Believe And Are Not Condemned, And The Unsaved Who Do Not Believe And Are Condemned.