


*"And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified." (Acts 20:32)*

January 13, 2019

## WE HAVE SEEN HIS GLORY

The Glory of Christ in the Judgement of the World

### INTRODUCTION

 ***Jesus came into a world to save justly condemned people.***

When John writes, "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world", it's not that there is no condemnation ("For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son," (John 5:22, ESV), it is because the world is already condemned and in need of being saved.

TEXT John 3:17-21.

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Verse 17 is just the mirror image of verse 16 → negative/positive.

### **#1. BELIEVE OR NOT BELIEVE, THAT IS THE QUESTION (v18)**

Notice the phrase: "believed in the name of the only Son of God." \_\_\_\_\_

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The idea is that it is not just a mental understanding it includes such ideas as trust and commitment. (cf: Matthew 16:24)

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### **#2. THE BASIS OF CONDEMNATION (v19)**

The primary disposition of the unredeemed world is to sin. Why? Because it is enjoyable. (cf: Genesis 3:6)

Psalm 4:2; 11:5; 52:3-4; Proverbs 1:22; Isaiah 66:3b; Micah 3:1-2; 1 John 2:15; 2 Timothy 4:10; etc.

A.W. Pink is profoundly correct on this: "God saves us from the pleasure or love of sin before He delivers us from the penalty or punishment of sin." "How does God save His people from the pleasure of sin?" The answer is "By giving them a new nature; a nature that hates sin and loves holiness."

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### #3. THE CORRECTNESS OF THE CONDEMNATION (v20-21)

✿ Verses 20-21 do not discuss how to become a Christian, nor do they explain how to be saved. Here John seeks to show that God’s verdict is correct. He is right! He contrasts two groups of people: the wicked and the righteous.

THE CHARACTER OF THE NONCHRISTIAN	THE CHARACTER OF THE CHRISTIAN
They hate God’s holiness and righteousness. They refuse to let His judgment judge their lives because they fear being exposed and shamed.	They love God’s view of their lives. They love “doing” the truth. They love acting faithfully before God. And they love exposing the reality that all their good works are really God working in them.

The late Grant Osborne writes about Christians, “*They become witnesses to the supreme value of doing the will of God. Others can see in them that the God-centered life is the only one worth living.*”<sup>1</sup>

### APPLICATION

John is very concerned that we define “belief” correctly.

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<sup>1</sup> Osborne, G. R. (2018). *John: Verse by Verse*. (J. Reimer, E. Ritzema, D. Thevenaz, & R. Brant, Eds.) (p. 87). Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.