



Jesus 3:16

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Welcome to Jesus Time Where we spend time with Jesus in His time and culture.

Most people almost everywhere have seen references or inferences to our study topic of John 3:16. Be it upon bumper stickers, T-shirts, billboards, or even wrote out by hand on posters at public events.

The point being is John 3:16 is the most recognized and beloved Biblical passage of all time.

The reason Why? Is because this Bible verse is a concise and precise summary of the entire Bible.

Yes, if someone knows and understands John 3:16- then they already know that Jesus is the point of GOD'S Holy Word the Bible.

This is also the reason Why? I like to personally call John 3:16 as too who it is all about; Jesus 3:16.

Prayerfully this study will be of great help to be able to fill in all of the cultural, historical, doctrinal & theological details of this most simple and yet the most powerful words ever written.

John chapter 2 detailed for us Jesus's first Passover pilgrimage after His public Ministry had begun. Christ our Lord had arrived and was sore indignant within His Righteousness at all the dishonest gain of the Pharisee's at GOD'S Holy house & with them showing a complete lack of reverence unto GOD.

We have seen Jesus overturned the commerce & exchange tables while likewise He ran the animals out and off from the consecrated grounds of His Heavenly Father, Jehovah Almighty's Temple.

After this the Apostle John records for us that Jesus preformed many supernatural miracles.

& this is my Bible studying friends is where we begin:

✝ Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ² He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him."

John 3:1-2 NIV

Verse 1:

The Pharisees of course were part of the religious ruling class of Israel at the time of Christ.

They esteemed themselves superior to all others while governing within the Jewish nation under the ever watching eye of Roman authority.

This pious sect arose as a social movement leaving them in charge by mandating the observance of hundreds of manmade laws of tradition and superstition they themselves piled atop GOD'S law.

Nicodemus is an unusual name for a Jew because Nico in Greek means victory while Demus in Hebrew means people, so the combined Greek/Hebrew name of Nicodemus means victory of the people.

Scripture does maintain that Nicodemus was not numbered with those Pharisee's abusing their authority and power. Later we will see that during Jesus's mock show trials before His execution that Nicodemus was not accounted for. As in they deliberately did not summon Nicodemus to any of their illegal proceedings that will befall Christ our Lord about three years hence from these events.

Now for scripture to state that Nicodemus was a member of the Jerusalem Ruling Council this means he was a Sanhedrin member. Each area, district, or town of Israel had a Sanhedrin legal court.

This was where civil and or religious crimes could be prosecuted. Some crimes which we would call misdemeanors if they were of no concern to the Romans could also be attended too. Any real violent crime or grievous thefts which we know as felonies were of course judged by the Romans.

With that said; as one might expect the Jerusalem Sanhedrin was by our reasoning the Supreme Court of Israel. To be a Jerusalem Ruling Council member, one had to be nominated by a sitting member as a future replacement. If ratified by vote the new member remained an unvoting observer member until another full member had retired, died, or was disbarred for whatever reason.

There were only 70 voting members and they were comprised of Pharisee's, Sadducee's, or Scribes. To even be considered for a Jerusalem Sanhedrin membership one must first be noticed and then recommended because of their distinguished dedicated service within a lower court.

One recommended also had to be properly educated and dedicate to memory the entire Torah. (1st five books of Moses) A nominee also had to be well versed with each the Jerusalem and Babylonian Talmud's. These be the entirety of the recorded legal proceedings of Israel's Supreme Court.

Each before and after the Babylonian diaspora. (Israel was previously conquered and dispersed for their Sin.)

Also it was requirement of a Jerusalem Sanhedrin member to know each the "Mishna" which was the oral traditions of Israel, and the "Midrash" which is the written commentary's of the great Jewish sages- as in knowing their opinions upon scripture and all Jewish law.

& of course the unspoken rule of: if married- to having the privilege of securing the proper wife. Meaning having the pedigree of accepted heritage that maintained control within the selected few.

Just for the record for those who enjoy Biblical trivia; it is around this time that Saul/Paul has been summoned to Jerusalem to become himself a young understudy member of the Supreme Court.

Verse 2:

Right away what we miss here is the astounding kind words of respect that Nicodemus approaches Jesus with. Pharisees typically had nothing but contempt for those they considered to be unlettered from their vantage point of being schooled within their educational standards. As in acceptable learning was only by the colleges that they- the Pharisees themselves were required to attend.

Nicodemus had reasoned to himself that no one could preform the supernatural signs that Jesus was performing and not be the Christ. While as for the reason Why? Nicodemus sought out Jesus after dark was because of the curfew that was particularly enforced in Jerusalem at the time of Passover.

Unnoticed Nicodemus would be at night speaking with Jesus which save him trouble with the elite.

You see the Pharisee's were actually pleased for the continuous curfew of night that Rome had placed upon Israel. Especially during the 3 required pilgrimage festivals. The reason being is of course this kept the behavior of the people on holiday in Jerusalem curtailed.

As in no crass party mode revelry at least publicly could get out of control due to the Roman curfew.

In fact there were 3 public proclamations that the religious elite of Israel thought, taught, and promoted about those whom were out and about at night at any time festival or no.

1st only those committing adultery or participating within prostitution.

2nd those nefarious; as in thieves, robbers, or bandits.

3rd those plotting insurrection with the making of or the acquiring of contrabanded weapons.

As silly as this is going to sound remember the Pharisee's ruled by tradition and superstition at the time of Jesus, as such the rumor was spread by them that ghouls, demons, and ghosts roamed the night. These evil spirits searched for wayward humans foolish enough to be outdoors after dark in order to indwell them. As in it was taught that those out at night were subject to be possessed within themselves by evil demonic spirit beings. (fallen Angels)

The trick was the Pharisee's only had to get a small percentage of fearful people to believe in such nonsense who would then begin to turn in to the authorities those whom they knew were out and about at night.

Thusly unwittingly they; the fearful, became the eyes and ears of each the Pharisees and Rome.

As hated as each Rome and the Pharisees were corruption was the standard that each ruled by.

Those who sneakily privately aided either the Jewish religious elite or the Romans were rewarded.

Again for example the most infamous of such betrayers for selfish gain was of course Judas Iscariot.

The Talmud (Babylonian) records Nicodemus's Supreme Court membership and calls him a distinguished well versed charitable teacher of Israel.

For the record Josephus the Jewish political, military leader, & historian who lived in the first century records for us; that it was unfortunate during the great Zealot rebellion of 67 AD, when the Zealots finally forcibly installed a new High Priest whom answered unto the people- when these riots ensued that the fields of Nicodemus were burned. Josephus states this was a great tragedy because said fields were dedicated solely to feeding the disadvantaged of Israel.

Now another item that Nicodemus probably picked up on better than we was the timing of when Jesus purged the Temple. At the exact time in which Jesus arrived at the Temple and cleansed His Father's house WAS the exact time by GOD'S Holy Word in which Israel was to remove all leaven from their homes.

✠ In the first month, from the evening of the fourteenth day until the evening of the twenty-first day, you shall eat unleavened bread. ¹⁹ For seven days no leaven shall be found in your houses; for whoever eats what is leavened shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether an alien or a native of the land. ²⁰ You shall eat nothing leavened; in all your settlements you shall eat unleavened bread.

Exodus 12:18-20 NRSV

Get that ? As in the symbolic removal of Sin from their homes.

As such Jesus removed the Sin within His Father's home in Jerusalem.

Also we should note here that it was the Greek word 4592 Nicodemus used for the miracles of Christ. This word specifically means by " Divine " origin alone.

This should be mentioned because each Hebrew & Greek are exactly precise and this distinction was evident within Nicodemus's words unto Christ Jesus. While of course we know Nicodemus not only mentioned Jesus's miracles but he also respectfully called Jesus " Rabbi " which means teacher.

Lets pick up again at John's recording of the discourse discussion between Jesus & Nicodemus:

✠ Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

⁴ "How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!"

John 3:3-4 NIV

Did you notice ?

Remember from our previous Sunday School lesson " Initial Disciples " specifically when- Jesus knew Nathanael had a preconceived prejudice against anyone being from Nazareth. When Christ's first words to him basically obliterated all of Nathaniel's notions and directly moved their conversation up to the next level of understanding-

Same answer.

Jesus as Deity already knew Nicodemus was approaching Him with respect and many questions. Such as are you the Christ? Why do you disturb the status quo ? Is GOD'S Kingdom at hand ? Etc.

Jesus knew this was His moment for Him to cut through all of the theological questions and doctrinal debating to explain what truly mattered- mankind's need of a Savior offering redemption unto GOD.

Look again at Nicodemus's words he is more perplexed and stunned with his thoughts interrupted he blurts out an obvious question- one that Nicodemus already knew the answer too.

Remember Nicodemus KNOWS what " Born Again " means. The Pharisees invented the term!

Get that ? (Born Again)

Jesus uses these descriptive words of needing Spiritual rebirth through Him as Messiah as “born again” through out His Ministry. Jesus used this term because the Pharisee’s used these very words when they converted and Baptized Gentile converts into Judaism. Jesus said “ Born Again “ because He knew the Jews understood these words of Spiritual rebirth which now includes all peoples- even the Jews.

The Pharisees believed and taught that there were in fact 3 examples of new Spiritual rebirth.

1st When a Gentile (non Jew) converted into Judaism.

2nd When a Jewish Bride & Groom took their vows and washed themselves, immersed in water symbolically a Baptism, they were Reborn together as a couple before and with GOD, for GOD.

3rd When a Pharisee accepted a teaching position at academy, he was elevated up a level as in Reborn.

Each of these three Pharisical teachings meant that all of their previous relationships personally and privately were now secondary or in the case of the Gentile convert- their relationships with their friends and family who were not converts was strictly now forever forbidden.

So Nicodemus knew what “born again” meant. A Spiritual rebirth of dedication and redemption.

Remember Nicodemus is harboring the notion that the Pharisees actually believe that GOD owes them- the Pharisees and the Scribes Salvation. Nicodemus also believes if every other Jew is compliant they are automatically Saved if by GOD’S Law they are legal. The Torah (Old Testament) never states this.

From day one the Jewish people were told they were selected because they were the smallest of the Earths clans or tribes and as such they were chosen for occupation not salvation.

They were chosen to be the worlds clergy:

✝ Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, ⁶ you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’

Exodus 19:5-6 NIV

Also remember the very name of Israel means one who contends with GOD and is the “reborn” name of Jacob. One of the 3 founding fathers of Israel. Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob. (Father - Son - Grand Son.)

As in an repentant Jew who has come unto the Lord seeking His Messiah. (Christ Jesus)

Scripture makes it clear in this way all Israel will be Saved. (Those Jews seeking Messiah, Romans 11:26)

Unrepentant disobedient Jews are always referred to as Jacob through out the Torah & the Prophets.

Just as the unrepentant in the New Testament are called the worldly lost as in the unsaved.

The true Old Testament believer looked forward to a Saving Christ, while those of us who accept Jesus and His New Covenant look back to Him and His cross as Messiah. (Same thing different perspective of time)

So, Nicodemus takes offense not because he does not understand but deep down he truly does.

Because the man he suspects is the Christ has just told him that he- Nicodemus must also be Saved. (reborn Spiritually not automatically Saved because he deserves it.) An affront & humiliation unto Nicodemus.

You see with all of his studying and learning, with all of his charity and the practice of his faith; Nicodemus is suddenly informed directly by Jesus that yes indeed even he needs to be redeemed.

His Sin accounted & atoned for, before- a Holy, Pure, Righteous, and Just GOD. Almighty Jehovah.

Just as we each & every one of us, when we realize that we are not good enough on our own to stand before GOD. No matter our status or achievements in this life, we still need a Saving Christ.

You may be self restrained, self improved, successful, respected & loved. But still needing redemption from above. Like Judaism many of us understand repentance yet not grasp Spiritual restoration.

No matter our wealth or the kindness we have shown, no matter what- we can never make it alone.

✝ There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, Romans 3:22B-23 NIV

The Lord continues,...

✝ Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.” (wind in Hebrew means Spirit or the breath of GOD as in the Holy Spirit’s calling) John 3:5-8 NIV

Of course water is connected with the ritual cleansing of the body and as such the Pharisees used this aspect of repentance from ones sin as they accepted and dedicated themselves unto GOD cleansed from their former life. However it was the Spiritual aspect of restoration that Nicodemus was lacking. Jesus chose these words because the “water” in Nicodemus’s mind represented repentance whereas Jesus’s uses the term “Spirit” which speaks of restoration.

Ephesians 5:25 explains for us that following GOD’S Word is like washing ourselves with water and as a result we are to live in this world physically clean.

✝ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word. NIV (Remember Jesus is the Living Word of GOD so we are to live by Christ’s Words & His example.)

For Nicodemus the thought of Spiritual regeneration was something brand new never taught before within Judaism. Jesus is saying one must be “ born again “ as in Spiritually to be able to receive, as in to be able to enter into the Kingdom of GOD.

When mankind fell in Sin at the Garden of Eden it was our Spiritual Life or communion with GOD that immediately died. At this point our bodies were corrupted as Sin crept in and physical death ultimately befalls each and every one of us. In fact this is Why? We must die- physically.

First nothing corrupted by Sin can enter into GOD’S Kingdom. We are born in a state a Sin.

Second GOD does not wish for us to remain in a fallen Sinful state.

Revelation explains for us that at the conclusion of the Church Age also known as the Age of Grace physical restoration awaits those Spiritually reborn in Christ. Why? The delay, not everyone who will be Saved has been born as of yet. We are all each a thought in the mind of the Great I AM, brought forth in His time within His plan.

Our eternal Soul endures but without our Spiritual connection with Heavenly Father, the Kingdom of GOD is beyond our reach. This be until GOD Himself was born human to provide His only “Way” for us to be “ born again “ Spiritually alive in Jesus Christ.

✝ But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, Titus 3:4-6 NIV

✝ 9 “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

10 “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? 11 Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. 12 I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? 13 No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man.

John 3: 9-13 NIV

There is a lot of meaning here contained within Jesus’s Words so lets unpack them one verse at a time.

Verse 10 : Within the original Greek Jesus refers to Nicodemus as THE teacher of Israel.

We have already previously seen when Greek calls someone or something THE it means paramount.

As in Jesus was saying that He felt Nicodemus was the most learned teacher of Israel.

(or “lettered” as those who were educated in Israel at this time were called.)

If you read verse 10 again Jesus’s Words seem as much a statement as they do a question.

Personally I think Jesus was calling Nicodemus out on this issue, that Christ did suspect Nicodemus was trying to side step the issue of being “ born again” by playing dumb to it. This was not a topic that Nicodemus had wished to speak with Jesus about. However the Lord knew what Nicodemus lacked.

Like so many of us- we too approach GOD in Prayer with preconceived thoughts and notions in which we wish to talk about with Him. Then the Lord within our hearts and minds impresses upon us what we are also trying to ignore or wish to side step about ourselves as it pertains with us personally or with GOD.

Verse 11 : In plain English Jesus just told Nicodemus you call me teacher and you say my miracles are evidence of my Heavenly authority, but yet you are unwilling to accept my teachings because you do not like what you are hearing. Jesus states it is He & His Disciples who are being rejected by the Pharisee’s.

Verse 12: Again Jesus knew exactly what Nicodemus truly wished to speak with Him about. Heaven/GOD, Biblical Doctrine, and Messianic prophecy leading of course to the Works & Words of Jehovah’s Messiah. Instead Jesus cut right through all of this Theological legalism and went right to the point of His actual Ministry as Christ Messiah & directly to His purpose assigned to Him directly by Heavenly Father Jehovah.

The Why? Messiah has come from Heaven. Even with all of his study, Prayer, pious living & charitable alms giving- Nicodemus still did not comprehend THE paramount top mystery of GOD.

This was beyond Nicodemus reach, that Jesus had come to make all things new. (Rev. 21:5) Yes, we are to repent of our Sin & then we gain Spiritual rebirth through Christ. Colossians 1:27 states this well.

✝ to whom God willed to make known what the wealth of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles is, The mystery that is Christ in you, the hope of glory. NASB

Again in Greek the Apostle Paul makes it clear here, THE top or paramount mystery of GOD was revealed to which not only was redemption possible from ones Sins, but also our actual restoration of Spiritual life unto Jehovah GOD through and by Christ Messiah Jesus is ours at Redemptive Belief.

We are physical beings with an eternal soul born forever in Sin Spiritually dead. Until when we accept Jesus’s as our Savior, remember He paid for our Sin debt unto our Heavenly Father & we- the Spiritually dead, are then given Spiritual rebirth by the forever deposit of the Holy Spirit indwelling each of us who believe & receive Jesus as their Messiah Christ. We are to be later restored physically. (at Rapture)

Verse 13 : As Christians we often say when a loved one in Christ passes away that they have moved on to a better place. Our living soul the essence of our being goes forth into eternity and then as for the believer, we go with our restored Spiritual life by Christ unto Jehovah Father for forever more.

We understand our sinful corrupted physical bodies can not enter into the realm of GOD'S existence. Thusly this is Why? We die. But yet our inner selves remain Spiritually alive. So,... where do we go? To Heaven of course to be with our Lord and Savior in Spiritual form until the completion of the "Age of Grace." AKA the Church Age. This present Age concludes during what is known as the "Rapture." By which all believers dead are restored physically alive while those who are currently still alive at the time of Rapture; are also transformed into incorruptible forever ageless physical bodies.

What I'm getting at is this: Jesus just reminded everyone that going directly to Heaven for the Believer in Messiah did not happen until after Christ Jesus had completed His work by GOD for us upon His cross. Before the cross every human who died descended into the Earth into "Sheol" the abode of the dead. Those Faithful in death were awaiting their Saviors redemption according to GOD'S Word as they went into a place that scripture called "Paradise." AKA Abrahams bosom.

Even as Jesus hung upon His cross, Christ had this conversation between He and one of the two thieves who were crucified with Him.

✝ One of the criminals hanging beside him scoffed, "So you're the Messiah, are you? Prove it by saving yourself—and us too, while you're at it!"

⁴⁰ But the other criminal protested, "Don't you fear God even when you have been sentenced to die? ⁴¹ We deserve to die for our crimes, but this man hasn't done anything wrong." ⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom." ⁴³ And Jesus replied, "I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Luke 23:39-43 NLT

Many places in scripture explain for us that once Jesus completed His Ministry of His purpose, His being born human to die upon a sacrificial Cross, when He, Jesus- after His resurrection & ascension into Heaven (Acts 1:9) Jesus set the captives free. (those contained in paradise a gilded cage within Sheol awaiting the Savior)

Remember this verse below Jesus will publicly proclaim this to be His commission in His hometown of Nazareth.

✝ The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me,
because the LORD has anointed me (At His Baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus.)
to proclaim good news to the poor. (The Spiritually poor- the unbelieving)
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, (Heal our wounds caused by sin)
to proclaim freedom for the captives (Jesus Ministry & sacrificial life as Christ resulted in-
and release from darkness for the prisoners, - bringing to an end our sin releasing us from literal
Isaiah 61:1 NIV outer darkness of separation from GOD.)

This be we- human beings, who believe and receive the Grace of pardon from our Sin by Christ alone. As believers we were captive within our Sins, even those at Jesus Time within the ever pleasant Paradise awaiting Messiah's Salvation.

Please think of Paradise as it was; a pleasant luxurious gilded cage. But still a cage none the less. As in by Jesus we were finally able to enter into GOD'S Heavenly realm once Christ's mission was complete Paradise was emptied of Messiah's redeemed human Spiritual Souls when Jesus ascended into Heaven. Like us alive today we await for Spiritual life in Heaven, while those already in Heaven wait for the "Rapture " to also be restored physically alive. Think about the irony of that statement.

Jesus states for us within John 3:13 that no one- as in no human being, this being our ever living GOD given soul of existence had ever gone up into Heaven as of yet during Jesus's Time.

& likewise no human being has ever come down from Heaven except for GOD born as the Son of Man. Remember the Pharisee's thought & taught they were entitled to Heaven because GOD owed it to them

Now as for the Title; "The Son of Man" we have already seen in Greek that the word THE in front of a subject meant top or paramount as in Jesus was saying as Deity born into human flesh, He Himself is the most perfect sinless man ever born of woman. (human) Each by Mary Jesus's human mother & by the Divine Sinless Deity of Jesus's Father Jehovah Almighty through the Holy Spirit.

Jesus our Saving Messiah Christ was born complete each human & with His Divine Spiritual Life intact. The Divine Soul the inner being of Christ's existence, His Spirituality- the very essence of Jesus existed eternal long before ever being born, & yet now for forever more will He be- Deity contained within humanity.

Jesus continues unto Nicodemus:

✠ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him."

John 3:14-15 NIV

Now here within these two passages Jesus was referencing an historical Biblical event that He knew Nicodemus had to have memorized in order to be a member of Jerusalem's Supreme Sanhedrin Court. These scriptures are mentioned by Christ because they are indeed a past event that actually exactly foreshadowed the purpose of Jesus as our Messiah and His sacrifice for us upon His cross.

✠ From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵ The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." (Manna provided by GOD) ⁶ Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸ And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹ So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live. Numbers 21:4-9 NRSV

Biblically brass/bronze is equal to Judgement & is often coupled with fire which also is associated with Judgement. Think about this; All of the Jewish sacrificial alters for Sin were fired and made of bronze. Just as all of those whom were present with Moses that were bitten because of their Sin, those who looked directly upon the brass serpent "high and lifted up" did live. This was a literal metaphorical example of how the future Messiah- Christ Jesus, would also be fashioned to assume all of our Sin and transactions against our Holy, totally Pure, and Just Jehovah GOD.

So, anyone who looks to Him- Messiah Jesus our Lord, are Saved & redeemed Spiritually from death. While of course due to the Genesis account of Lucifer indwelling a serpent at the fall of mankind, snakes have always been associated with sin within the Bible & instinctively in our hearts & minds.

Which brings us now to the most recognized line from the greatest most popular Book of all time!

✝ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16 KJV

“This is perhaps the most famous & most quoted of verses in the New Testament epitomizing the truth of GOD that has come to the Jew & Gentile alike.”

From The Jewish (Believing) New Testament Commentary upon John3:16.

Jesus has now just plainly stated to the greatest teaching Pharisee of His Time Master Nicodemus, that He- Christ our Lord, was born to Spiritually restore A|| whom believed thusly receiving Salvation by Christ’s Justification. This be for A|| Gentile & Jew alike all can be Saved by Jesus as our Christ.

Nicodemus was bred, born , taught & thought- that Salvation was by him (the Pharisee) for the Jew alone. Most Pharisee's opposed as they talked and balked at the notion that Jehovah GOD would indeed redeem all of mankind. Those who believe & receive Spiritual life in & by Christ.

Also the classic definition of to “Bear or to be Born” speaks of someone's Matriarchal Mother. As too when the term “Begotten or to Beget” speaks of someone’s Patriarchal Father.

Jesus by using the Word “ Begotten “ is saying to Nicodemus an expert of knowing & using words- that His Father is Heavenly Father GOD Jehovah literally.

Further Jesus states A|| who Believe in Him; Jesus as their Christ, by belief receive eternal life.

Get that? The best teaching expert of GOD’S Law whom along with his fellow Pharisees had added hundreds of mandates of superstition unto the scriptures and likewise insisted upon uncountable oral traditions has just been told by GOD Himself, Emmanuel GOD with us, in 25 simple Words that all you have to do is to believe in Messiah Jesus and then you forever receive GOD’S Kingdom.

These simple 25 GOD Breathed Words are the summary total of the entire Holy Bible.

Why?

✝ For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost. Dr. Luke 19:10 NIV

Of course our Triune GOD, one who is three rewards us in Heaven for how we Live in and for Him. But to get to Heaven it does not take years of faithful study or even more decades of pious living, All it takes is Faith.

Faith that from Heaven Father GOD, sent part of Himself as Christ Messiah to Save us from ourselves. This is our being born in Sin (Spiritually dead & physically corrupted) & our life’s failures of Sin.

Why? So simple by Faith Alone.

Because Jesus just said GOD Love us. He feels the pain & shame of our Sin before Him Holy and Pure. Just as we love our own friends & family, we too were made to be part of GOD’S eternal Family.

Now dear reader I would like to present a direct English translation of John 3:16 from the Greek: Keep in mind the phrasing and order of thought will differ in translation from our modern speech.

✝ So For loved God the world. so as the son of Him, the only- begotten, He gave, that everyone believing into Him not may perish, but have life everlasting.

The reason Why? I wished to present this passage in its original language was to show the Words of Christ in their original order that is if you speak Greek. The point being is we are now going to examine two of these words in particular because within their original Greek is definition far richer in meaning than any of our modern day counter parts.

1st World: (For GOD so Loved the World) This word in Greek is 2889 which means Kosmos. This meaning in Greek is a broad term for creation which in turn is based upon the Greek root word 2865 which means to; “take care of,” “by providing for,” or “to prevent harm.” As in GOD is caring & providing for those within His created world as His created human inhabitants. So Jesus’s words in this passage have a deeper meaning for the ancient listener that English fails to deliver. As in Christ’s thoughts not only convey GOD’S love but pertain too His ownership & authority:

✝ “For God so loved (His created World including those whom He created within His created world,) that whosoever-”

2nd That: (That whosoever believes) This word in Greek is 2443. Greek is more precise than English & the word “That “ is more than a word in Greek. “That” is more of a definition used within a sentence.

I know this sounds strange for us today but here is what “That” meant to the Greek ear: “In order” as in demonstrating “purpose” of or the “reason” why.

It would be close for us today to say “That” would be equal to cause and intent. Lets make this easier, here is how the Greek ear would heard the word “That:”

✝ “For God so loved the world (& Because of His Love for us, so this being the reason why) He gave His only begotten Son-”

Now putting the lost to English far deeper meaning of these two Greek words “ World & That “ together into the same sentence we get how the ancient ear did hear the first line of John 3:16.

✝ “For God so loved (His created World including those whom He created within His created world,) (& Because of His Love for us, so this being the reason why) that He gave His only begotten Son-”

This my dear Bible studying friends is indeed the reason Why? Theologians and scholars spend lifetimes studying the scriptures within their original Hebrew, Greek, & even the Latin translations. There is just so much to learn & discern because the ancient languages were better! So what we can and should do is this; learn to read several reputable versions of scripture & then compare them & pray upon them. Fortunately for us, there is a wealth of wonderful study aides and commentaries out there centuries in the making. Never forget often the more aged Biblical resources can be very valuable due to their proximity to the ancient dialects. Today there are many online web sources & even podcasts of high quality definition & research. In time and with patience combined with Prayer deeper Biblical meaning can & will be yours!

Continuing on:

✝ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. John 3:17-18 NIV

While John 3:16 is the most read Bible verse of all time its sequel 3:17-18 are certainly not its equal in popularity. Why? Because people simply do not want to hear these words at all.

But these passages of scripture are what we see when we look into a mirror. Sin is in- all of us. We all love to hear Jesus Saves us from our Sins, that is if we believe in Him, but we do not want to hear that we need to be Saved in the first place because lost is mankind as a race.

Jesus just said all apart from Him, by our Sin- those whom refuse Jesus stand already condemned. In Greek the word condemned means someone has already been Judged past tense & found guilty.

✝ Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. Romans 8:1-2 NIV

✝ For the wages of sin is death, but the gracious gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23 NASB

So, believe & receive restored Spiritual Life in Christ by His cross- or not and be eternally lost. As in separated from a Holy, Pure, & Just GOD and His creation forever.

Those who refuse to accept Jesus have failed to acknowledge their obligation of responsibility and accountability for our actions before Jehovah GOD, thusly having no true reverence, nor repentance, or respect & gratitude unto Heavenly Father for His creating of ones self.

So just as we previously talked about "Paradise" where the believing redeemed went in death before the cross of Christ, & now we know that those post cross, those dead physically but now eternally alive Spiritually, their eternal soul ascends into Heaven- but what about those who refuse to believe and as in John 3:17-18 states they are condemned what about them?

The Sinfully lost in Jesus Time went to the place of torment and suffering known as "Hades." They are still there & this is where all of the unrepentant sinfully dead do go.

Those who die apart from Jesus and are lost & await what Holy Writ calls the "Great White Throne Judgement." Which can be found within Revelation chapter 20.

All at this Judgement are already permanently lost by their own free will because they lived and refused GOD and are now forever separated and removed from the presence of GOD to be cast into what will be know as the "Lake of Fire."

This Fire is literal not symbolic & it is GOD'S final Justice against the crimes of sin, rebellion, and unbelief. This indeed also answers the age old question of Why? does GOD allow this or that. Because all apart from Him-Father Jehovah, those refusing Christ Jesus as their Lord are ultimately condemned within their own Sin. As in no one gets away with anything. No sin trivial or scarce, no matter how great or small, no not one, especially the ones we think- are hardly sins at all.

Christ Jesus paid for the sins of His believers, those whom accept His Pardon of Grace, but those who refuse Messiah Jesus will have to pay Heavenly Father for their own sin debt. As in they never will. Because only Jesus qualified to pay our human sin debt owed unto His Father Jehovah because only Jesus Himself was totally innocent from sin. You see GOD is Love, & that is Why? He sent His Savior. However GOD is also Just and in death all of our life debts, our sins, do equate into what they really are; our disobedience before GOD Himself. No matter who we wronged or what we failed to do- ultimately it was GOD'S Law, His nature of right and wrong that we have all so carelessly broken. Every evil thought, every selfish motivation, every word of slander, every hindrance, malice or no- These violations of GOD'S morality are constantly tallied and totaled upon each of our individual accounts. Because ultimately every soul will be reckoned with and then settled before Holy GOD. Because no attribute of GOD such as Purity or Justice will be suspended or superseded by any other attribute of the Lord such as His ever Love or enduring Patience. So GOD provided His one and only "Way" to pay for our sin.

When Jesus pays for our Sin, we get in- into Heaven.

✠ Jesus answered, I AM the "way" and the truth and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know my Father as well.

John 14:6-7A NIV

I AM is the name GOD called Himself in the Old Testament because Israel was not yet ready to learn details of the Lord. (They were still captive in Egypt and GOD'S Word & Law had not yet been given to them as of yet.)

All we have to do is say yes to Jesus & then we are " Saved " by Him from our sin.

Sadly for many accepting Jesus as their Messiah & living by GOD'S rules is unacceptable to them.

So GOD honors their desires to be free of Him, and us- those who believe.

Unfortunately for them this means they are put into the only place outside of GOD'S Presence.

This means every human being ever born is either right now alive, or in Heaven, or in Hades.

Now you know Why? ^{1st} as to the totality of those living in evil including the demonic with their malicious thirst for destruction. & ^{2nd} the outright apprehension we feel for someone when they are seemingly charitable and full of life but yet they continue to deny Jesus as their Christ.

At this be not dismayed; for GOD allows the fallen each human and angelic, to hasten away all of the living whom would eventually by their own freewill- would rebel & fall away on their own throughout the boundless Ages of tomorrow. The Lord is allowing evil & temptation to separate the living.

This also means that GOD is keeping those who wish to be kept by Him according to His plan, the plan of the Great I AM.

Yes, this life within this construct of time by GOD'S design separates those whom willingly Love Him and wish to be part of His eternal family. This be each human and the Angelic. GOD does not force anyone to Love Him & the bad place in which the unrepentant go, simply put is outside of the Lords presence.

Finally Jesus our Christ concludes His conversation with Master Nicodemus, John 3:19-21 NIV

✠ This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. ²¹ But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

Children are often afraid of the dark, while most adults are afraid of the light.

It is true children instinctively fear the unknown and what could be perceived as hidden danger. It is also equally true adults fear giving up what they do know- especially when it is seemingly concealed within an emotional shroud of excuses for the purpose of rejecting GOD. By ignoring or denying of ones sin nature. This being veiled selfishness that offers a lost soul comfort, sinful delights, & pleasure. Ultimately said persons aversion and avoidance against Christ leaves one Spiritually dead forever and then to face eternally the consequences of their rebellion.

This is Why? Jesus says we must trust in Him with a childlike Faith. (Dr. Luke 18:17)

Admit it- the Gospel or "Good News" of Jesus Christ does seem to good to be true. But yet it is. All we have to do is Believe in Jesus & then Receive eternal Pardon within Christ's Grace by Faith.

Why? Because GOD said so, and a part of Him died and then revived alive to prove it.

It has been said that GOD'S Truth comforts the afflicted in this life, but afflicts those comfortable in sin. So the choice is yours alone: Eternal Life in Christ or forever condemned within your sin.

In conclusion here are two Jewish pious voices from the past just after the Time of Jesus our Christ:

Rabbi Jochanan ben Saccai not only was an uber definition of a Jewish sage but also a chief contributor of Rabbinical Judaism. Rabban ben Sacci was known as the " father of wisdom" and called the "light of Israel" he was for two years the President of the Jerusalem Supreme Court Sanhedrin according to the Babylonian Talmud (Ber. 28b) exactly 1 year prior and 1 year after the Temples destruction in 70 AD by Titus.

When the followers & students of his teachings come to him upon his death bed- he, Sacci burst into tears. These are his final words according to those whom esteemed him:

" If I were now to be brought before an Earthly King who lives today and dies tomorrow, whose wrath and whose bonds are not everlasting and whose sentence of death, even, is not that to everlasting death, who can be assuaged (lessened or satisfied) by arguments or perhaps be bought off by money I should tremble and weep.

How much more reason have I for it when about to be led before the King of kings, the Holy One, Blessed be He, Who liveth and abideth forever.

Whose chains are chains for evermore, and whose sentence of death killeth for ever.

Whom I cannot assuage with words, nor bribe by money and not only so but there are before me two ways, one to Paradise and the other to Hell.

I know not which of the two ways I shall have to go whether to paradise or Hell, How then shall I not shea (shed) tears? "

Jesus shared His Gospel with Nicodemus Israel's Greatest teacher of His Time and yet 40 years later Sacci one of the greatest Jewish sages of all time feared the darkness of his death.

Rabbi Sacci feared his GOD that he served for a lifetime.

Because he knew; that all of his pious self righteousness & all of his acquired worldly power and wealth could not save him now. He knew of Jesus- Israel's Messiah Christ, & yet he chose to live within his sin.

For the record; Isaiah 44:6, Psalm 24:7-10 & Psalm 10:16- each do record that Jewish scribes and priests began calling YHWH (Jehovah) Father GOD by the title King of kings as in GOD'S name, because they reverently feared writing the Lords name.

As in when Jesus became known as the King of kings- Israel's elite did know this was a title of not just a man, but of GOD Himself.

Also the Islamic Hadith forbids the use of the term King of kings because they too know it means GOD, & everyone knows Jesus our Christ by His title and name THE (top paramount) King of kings.

Now finally is the story of yet another powerful Jewish man as he too faced his death.

R Jehudah simply called "the Holy."

When this man died it was noticed that he lifted his hands and proudly boasted none of these ten fingers have broken the law of GOD.

Wow!

Get that?

First it was the pious man who near death finally realized that he was not secure with GOD because he had always denied Christ. He knew that GOD'S Law apart from Messiah condemns one in sin.

As for the unsaved GOD'S Law does not Spiritually heal as Christ's Pardon of Grace by Faith does.

So now near death he realizes that he must face GOD & he fears even though he was well educated and a self pious successful man, rich with wealth and power- but he knows and admits that he lived corrupt of character and flawed with sin.

This man; Rabbi Saccai, had chosen for a lifetime to ignore Heavenly Fathers Savior and now he dies in fear. He should be afraid; if apart from Christ he is still in Hades awaiting GOD'S final Judgement.

While the second man; R. Jehudah, in his recorded death, he actually stated loud and proud that he deserved and was going to Heaven.

This is being self deceived for he truly believed that he had no sin before GOD.

My friends this alone is sin- to think I'm good enough and not have harmed anyone.

Wrong- if you believe that:

You are being irreverent, disrespectful, as well as outright dishonest unto GOD Himself.

These two points being, no one is good enough, or kind enough, or righteous enough, or deserves- no matter what they have done, or who they may have helped to be allowed within the presence of Holy GOD.

GOD is purity of Light, not one crass word not one selfish blight, as in no sin gets in- into Heaven.

✝ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, Romans 3:23 NIV

✝ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 1st John 4:10 NIV

All of this is Why? Jesus came to us and died.

✝ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16 KJV