

Sermon Notes: Book of John Part 7 | Pastor Josh | Wednesday Night Bible Study

Introduction

- Focus: John chapter 3
- Key Verse: John 3:16
- Importance of knowing and understanding God's word.

John 3:16 - The Essence of the Gospel

- **God's Love:** Demonstrated by giving His only Son.
- **Belief:** Essential for eternal life.
- **Sacrifice:** Jesus' death as a demonstration of God's love.

Nicodemus and Being Born Again

- **John 3:1-21:** Nicodemus' night visit to Jesus.
- **John 3:14-15:** Reference to Moses lifting the serpent in the wilderness.
- **Born Again:** A spiritual rebirth necessary to see the Kingdom of Heaven.

Cultural Shift in Scriptural Knowledge

- **Past Awareness:** John 3:16 was widely known.
- **Current Awareness:** Shift towards verses like Matthew 7:1.

Condemnation and Salvation

- **John 3:18-19:** Belief in Jesus prevents condemnation.
- **Darkness vs. Light:** Preference for darkness due to evil deeds.

God's Desire for Repentance

- **Ezekiel 33:11:** God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked.
- **Call to Repentance:** Turn from evil ways and live.

God's Compassion Despite Suffering

- **Lamentations 3:** God's heart in affliction is not one of enjoyment but necessity.
- **Hebrews 12:** God's chastisement as a form of love.

Walking in the Light

- **1 John 1:** Walking in the light means having fellowship with Christ.
- **Confession of Sin:** Continuous need for God's grace and forgiveness.

Conclusion

- **Encouragement:** Live openly in relationship with God.
- **Faith:** Not about perfect righteousness but walking in Christ's light and truth.