**Abundant Life Church**

**Sunday, June 28th, 2020**

**Title: The love of God**

**Text:**

*"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.****John 3:16 (NASB)***

This verse might be the most well-known verse in the Bible. It was spoken by Jesus to a religious leader that had come to Him at night, attempting to understand and learn how to know God.

**God’s Disposition Towards This World is Love**

What world? This sinful rebellious world

The world has been in rebellion since its inception.

Adam & Eve’s sin,

Cain killing Abel,

Man’s intent of the heart, always on evil,

His Old Testament people failing His mission of bringing hope to the world.

The man of the Old Testament who is remembered as a man after God’s own heart

His New Testament people – cold, lukewarm, corrupt, in love with the things of this world, loving pleasure more than God, hypocrites, the racism which was protected by those who claimed Christ,

Who has not sinned? Who has not failed their own standards?

Who has not lied, hated, been hypocritical, …. We all like sheep have gone astray.

**The Perishing World**

God knows and understands a day of judgment is coming.

*For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,****Romans 1:18 (NASB)***

 He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."   
**Acts 17:31 (NASB)**

So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God.   
**Romans 14:12 (NASB)**

 but they will give account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.   
**1 Peter 4:5 (NASB)**

 "But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment.   
**Matthew 12:36 (NASB)**

I know our culture is uncomfortable with this concept but it is still true. There is a day of judgment coming, when God using His standards will judge your heart.

He will not see how you compare with your contemporaries but will have you standing in His glorious presence. There is no thought, word or action that will be unknown.

The wrath of God is coming.

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.   
**Ephesians 5:6 (NASB) in an exhortation for sexual purity and sober living.**

 He (*those that take the mark of the beast*) also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger; and he will be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.   
**Revelation 14:10 (NASB)**

The mark of the beast – In the future a mark – I don’t know why that scares everyone so bad. Those who are loving their sin, not repenting, too proud to yield to Jesus, your walking according to the spirit of this world, the same spirit that will be controlling the beast – you are already under the influence of this evil.

*Every person who puts their own opinions above the Word of God is already under the influence of the beast.*

**Hosea’s Story**

1  Listen to the word of the LORD, O sons of Israel, For the LORD has a case against the inhabitants of the land, Because there is no faithfulness or kindness Or knowledge of God in the land.   
2  *There is* swearing, deception, murder, stealing and adultery. They employ violence, so that bloodshed follows bloodshed.   
3  Therefore the land mourns, And everyone who lives in it languishes…   
**Hosea 4:1-3a (NASB)**

8  How can I give you up, O Ephraim?

How can I surrender you, O Israel?

My heart is turned over within Me, All My compassions are kindled.   
9  I will not execute My fierce anger; I will not destroy Ephraim again.

For I am God and not man, the Holy One in your midst,

And I will not come in wrath.

**Hosea 11:8a,c-9 (NASB)**

**The One Savior God has given**

 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.   
**John 3:16 (NASB)**

*4  Surely our griefs He Himself bore, And our sorrows He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, Smitten of God, and afflicted.   
5  But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed.   
6  All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him.****Isaiah 53:4-6 (NASB)***

 "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.   
**John 5:24 (NASB)**

9  who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity,   
10  but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,   
**2 Timothy 1:9-10 (NASB)**

 Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which *the Lord* has promised to those who love Him.   
**James 1:12 (NASB)**

*Jesus wore a crown of thorns so that you and I could wear a crown of life.*