

Sermon Notes

"Love and Light, Part I"

John 3:16-21

11/13/22

- 1) I would like to reflect together with you on the _____ of God in this world and _____ place in it.
 - a) _____ exactly is God's mission and in what way or ways are you, "a _____ of it."
 - i) to what degree have you been the _____ of his mission, and
 - ii) to what degree are you a _____ in his mission – a mission-_____?
 - b) So, there are three specific questions regarding the _____ of _____:
 - i) _____ is it?
 - ii) Are you a _____ of it?
 - iii) Are you _____ in it?

- 2) While there are other passages that speak to this question, none do so better than this passage as _____ himself explains the mission of God to _____.

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. ²¹ But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

- 3) One of the first things we see here is that the _____ of God is represented in the _____ of God.
 - a) So, if we want to _____ what the mission of God is, we need do no more than _____ at his gift.
 - i) Now, as we do, we see that it is both a gift of _____ (vs. 16-18) and a gift of _____ (vs. 19-21).
 - ii) As we reflect, then, on the degree to which we are both a recipient of, and a participant in, the _____ of God, we can already begin to _____ in those two categories:
 - (1) To what degree am I both a recipient and participant in the _____ of God's mission/_____.
 - (2) To what degree am I both a recipient and participant in the _____ of God's mission/_____.
 - iii) Today we will look at the _____ aspect and next week we will look at the _____ aspect.
 - (1) But, I want to underscore that these two aspects of his mission are _____.
 - (a) To receive and participate in the love _____ receive and participate in the light.

- 4) The _____ Of God's Gift/Mission. (Vs. 16-18)
 - a) The love represented in God's gift _____ with his great love for the _____.
 - i) The _____?
 - (1) _____. (Ps. 145:9, Gen. 8:20-22, 9:8-15, Matt. 5:5, Rom. 8:18-25)
 - (2) _____ Man, the _____ of his creation.
 - (a) In the _____ of man is the _____ of creation.

ii) The _____?

(1) _____ the love of the world that we are _____ against (I John 2:15-17), the love that God has for the world sees the world in its _____ and is moved to sacrificially _____ it.

(a) The need of the world is _____ (vs. 17), for the world is under _____.
(vs. 18, Eph. 2:1-3)

(i) God didn't send his Son to _____ the world; we were _____ condemned.

(ii) The love of God is _____ in _____ past what we were to what we could be again. (Rom. 5:6-8)

1. True love begins with _____ another in their need and sacrificially working to _____ it.

2. The _____ the need, and the more _____ the one in need, the greater the love that's required.

a. To fix the problem (_____) and to bear the cost (_____).

b. To love us required an _____ degree of both.

i. The _____ Son of God, delivered into the hands of sinners (_____ of God). (**Isaiah 53:3**)

b) But, the love of God's gift/mission can only be fully _____ when we consider the extent of his love for, "_____." (vs. 16)

i) This, of course, is the fullest expression of what was _____ in _____. (**Gen. 22:2, 15-18**)

(1) "Take your son, your only son Isaac, _____, and go..."

(2) God has openly testified that this is his _____. (**Matt. 3:16-17**)

(3) And as the sacrifice of his Son was being made, the _____ of God reverberated throughout _____ itself. (**Mt. 27:45-54**)

ii) _____ could possibly _____ for God's giving his Beloved, only Son to suffer the _____ of hell that were due to us?

(1) Giving the Son who _____ him _____.

(2) For those who _____ him _____.

iii) The world would say, "_____."

(1) But, for those of us who have been given eyes to see, we _____ on our _____ in the presence of _____ love and cry, "_____!"

5) The mission/gift of God is one of _____ and _____.

a) As it regards the love of God in this mission:

i) Are you a _____?

ii) Are you a _____?

b) We will pick it up there, _____, next week.