

Sermon Notes

"Love and Light, Part II"

John 3:16-21

11/20/22

- 1) Today we complete our short examination of the _____ of God in this world and _____ place in it.
 - a) There are three specific questions we are seeking to answer:
 - i) What is the _____ of _____ in this world?
 - ii) Am I a _____ of it?
 - iii) Am I a _____ in it?

- 2) Last week we saw that the mission of God is represented in the _____ of God: his _____.
 - a) This gift is of both _____ (vs. 16-18) and _____ (vs. 19-21)
 - i) The love of God is expressed in the _____ of God's one and only _____ to suffer the torments of hell for the world (mankind), even when mankind was passionately _____ him.
 - (1) To receive this love is to _____ it clearly in the context of our great need and to _____ it through ongoing repentance of sin and _____ in him.
 - (2) To _____ in this mission of love is to see _____ in their need for salvation and _____ take steps toward meeting that need.
 - (a) _____ the _____ of his love in Christ even if they be passionately _____ him.
 - ii) Today we move on to examine the mission/gift of God as a mission/gift of _____.

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) As a way of understanding the _____ of the light of God to the mission of God, and what that means for us, I thought it might be most effective to simply walk through a series of exegetical _____.
 - a) Assertion 1: The love of God, Son of God, and light of God are here as a _____ of three _____.
 - i) Not _____ to each other, but _____ from each other.
 - (1) Such that when Jesus refers to the light's coming _____ the _____, he is referring to _____.
 - (a) After all, Jesus did say that he was the _____ of the _____. (**John 8:12**)
 - (b) And that this light was the light of _____.

 - b) Assertion 2: When Jesus refers here to the _____ of God, he is referring to the revelation/teaching/_____ of God, which he also _____.
 - i) John made this clear at the _____ of his _____. (**John 1:1-5**)

- ii) Once again linking _____, light and _____.
- c) Assertion 3: When we say, then, that the _____ of God in this world is of both love and light, both of these are centered in the _____.
- i) He is the preeminent _____ of God's _____.
- ii) He is the preeminent _____ of God's _____.
- d) Assertion 4: The _____ of man to either receive or reject the mission/gift of God will be the _____ for both the _____ and the _____.
- i) You cannot _____ the one without _____ the other, for in seeking to embrace either one you must embrace _____ who is both.
- e) Assertion 5: To genuinely receive this gift of God is to _____ the _____ of both the love and the light in the Son.
- i) To receive _____ of the love is not to receive the love.
(1) We cannot receive him as a partial _____. **(Gal. 5:2-6)**
- ii) To receive _____ of the light is not to receive the light.
(1) We cannot receive him as a partial _____. (Prov. 30:5-6, Mt. 4:4, II Tim. 3:16-17, Rev. 22:18-19, **Belgic Confession Article 7**)
- f) Assertion 6: Those who have truly embraced the **love** of God in Christ distinguish themselves by _____ coming to the _____ of God in Christ. (vs. 22-21)
- i) Those who _____ not, _____ not.
(1) Particularly the portion of the light that _____ their works to be _____.

Conclusions:

1. The mission of God in this world is the development of a people who are _____, through their full _____ of both the _____ and _____ of God in Christ. **(I Peter 2:1-12)**
2. _____ of the mission of God fully embrace both the _____ and the _____ of God in Christ, distinguishing themselves by their unreserved _____ to the light, and being _____ according to it.
3. _____ in the mission of God fully declare both the _____ and the _____ of God.
 - i. Championing the message that God's _____ is the complete and only _____.
 - ii. AND championing the message that God's _____ is the complete and only _____.
4. Anything less than this is not _____ participation in the _____ of God in this world. **(Mt. 28:18-20)**