

John 3:16
Billy Graham

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: John 3:16.
- B. Everything you need to know about salvation is in this verse.
- C. If God loves the world why does he allow so much suffering?
- D. God has not abandoned us - we have abandoned Him.

II. God cannot be proven, but the Bible tells us about Him.

- A. God created the world.
- B. God is a spirit who can be everywhere at the same time.
- C. God is unchanging.
- D. God is holy.
- E. God is a God of judgment of all secret thoughts and deeds.
- F. God has appointed a day in which He will judge the world.
- G. God is a God of love.

III. God is a God of love and God loves you.

- A. No matter how many sins you have committed God loves you.
- B. God can change you starting now.
- C. God judges but He loves with an everlasting love. (Jeremiah)
 - 1. God created man because He is a God of love.
 - 2. Man broke God's law and sinned. (Romans 6)
 - 3. This is the law of conscience or the Ten Commandments. We have come short of what God requires.
 - 4. There is no man that sins not - we are alienated from God but he still loves us.
 - 5. There is a hell, but there is a hell here too.
 - 6. Since we have broken God's law we are spiritually dead.

D. Hell is separation from God which is a terrible loneliness.

1. God saw all the confusion and all the stumbling in darkness.
2. Because of God's love, He decided to do something about it.
3. But in doing something about it, He had to pay for the consequences of sin.

IV. God did something about it - He became a man to save us and die for us.

- A. Jesus took our sins on the cross.
- B. Jesus was made to be sin for us - He became guilty of our sins.

V. What we have to do.

- A. We have to repent - confessing to God that we have sinned against God and that we are willing to turn from our sins and follow Him.
- B. The cross of Christ directs the lost people to their way home.
- C. Christ was risen from the dead. He is a living Christ that will make us a new person taking away loneliness and all that sin.
- D. Christ is coming back some day.
 1. No "-ism" is going to win. Only Christ is going to win.
 2. Tonight He wants to rule your heart.
- E. God commands everyone to repent and come to Christ by faith and by grace, which is something you cannot work for.

VI. Prayer.

Application questions

1. How can God be loving and just at the same time?

2. What is required for us to receive eternal life?

3. Are you ready to receive Jesus for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life? If not, what is holding you back? Is your reason a good one? If so, pray in faith to God that you repent of your sins and receive Christ's forgiveness in faith.
