



SOUTH JACKSON BEACON

Vol XVII

June 8, 2025

No. 23

John 3:16 Means What it Says

Tim Dooley

From the time we were small children most of us have known this beautiful verse. Unfortunately many in the world have twisted and corrupted this beautiful text failing to accurately portray God's love for mankind and leaving countless souls hopelessly lost to what God expects of all those He loves. So just what does this verse say?

First of all it says that "God," the one and only true deity, who created all things and who has in His power the salvation and condemnation of His creation, "so loved the 'kosmos,'" every man. This word in its context means "the inhabitants of the earth, men, the human race." Since humanity, in its totality, has sinned and separated himself from God and life (Isaiah 59:1 – 2; Romans 3:10, 23; 5:12), God in His infinite love, chose to do something in order to redeem mankind and offer him a second chance.

What was that? "...he gave his only begotten Son." The second person of the Godhead agree to take on the role of Son and Savior; and was "made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man" (Hebrews 2:9). The Father sent His son, the only begotten Son of God, to die for our sins. He was the only sacrifice worthy to pay the price and sanctify us. Now if the verse stopped right there then we would not have to do anything and the non – religious, who want to live any way they choose and claim God's Son as a universal, unconditional sacrifice, could continue on in the way they are going.

However, Jesus continued and said, "that whosoever believeth in him should not perish." There are three important things for us to

notice here: 1) There is a burden placed upon every man who has ever lived since the death of Jesus. The word “believeth” here means to “place your faith and trust in.” It is more than just a mental affirmation that Jesus is the Son of God and that He died for the sins of all men. It means that we have to listen, heed, obey, and be faithful to His teachings. 2) The English phrase “should not” is rendered from the single Greek word which means that this is the ONLY way (John 14:6) to keep from perishing eternally. 3) The word “perish” indicates a foundational biblical principle; as long as we are joined to God in a spiritual relationship we have spiritual life. But since sin separates us from God, that sin brings forth spiritual death, if we die physically, separated from God, we have eternal death. The only hope we have is Christ.

So the natural, logical, and honest question would be the same as it was on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:28), for Saul of Tarsus (Acts 9:6), or of the Philippian Jailor (Acts 16:30), “What must we do in order to be saved?” Obviously God’s love shown to us in the sacrifice of His Son demands a reciprocal love from us. Jesus said, “If you love me, keep my commandments” (John 14:15). He asks us even today, “And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?” (Luke 6:46).

Repent of your sins (Acts 17:30); confess Jesus with your words and with your life (Luke 9:26); and do what those men on Pentecost, Saul of Tarsus, and the Philippian Jailor all did. “Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls” (Acts 2:41). “And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord” (Acts 22:16). “And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway” (Acts 16:33).

But then remember, this is only the beginning, not the end! One must “...observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you” (Matthew 28:20), and “be thou faithful unto death” (Revelation 2:10).

Congregational News & Notes

Prayer Requested

Members

Mary Bolen, Luther & Jo Merritt
Ron and Nadine McDonald,
Sandra Epperson, Sue Harris
Fredie Stewart, Cindy Kidder,
Roberta Donaldson, Lisa Dukes,
Doug Crouse, Freddie Callis,
Betty Mosely, Teriyaki Anderson
James Morris, Freeman Kidder,
Andy Vaughn, Pearl Johnson,
Paula Wadley, Judy Ellis
Jerry Crabb, Karen Chance,
Mary Lewis, Roberta Donaldson
Gaylon & Betty Cooper,
Sammy & Shirley Puckett

Friends & Family

Horace Yearwood, Shirley Bolin,
Beverly Martindale,
Gladys Gowan, Diane Hubbard,
Brandi Rogers, Corey Allen
Kenton Lancaster, Roger Callis,
Caraline Rogers
Justin Puckett, Ruby Malone,
Jane Washington, Betty Green

Today's Sermons

AM - Moments with the Master
A Transforming Moment
Mark 1:40-45

PM - Jesus Is All You Need
John 14:6

Happenings

South Jackson

June 4

Chip Thomas will teach Adult
Class

June 29

5th Sunday fellowship meal
Evening service will be at
1:00 PM

Cards to Send

Doug & Carol Crouse
68 Scotland Drive
Henderson, TN 38301

Luther & Jo Merritt
121 Chester Levee Road
Jackson, TN 38301

Weekly Record

6 AM	0
Bible Class	49/2
AM Worship	80/10
PM Worship	45/NA
Wed Bible Study	44/NA
Contribution	3948
Budget	4014

Those Privileged to Serve

June 8 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM -P. Hatcher, J. Butcher

Lead Singing: John Smith

Read Scripture:

Jeff Bliss

Opening Prayer:

Greg Long

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Marion Thomas

Communion: Paul Hatcher

Contribution:

Van McConnell

June 15 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM -J. Smith, M. Wages

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Read Scripture:

Carleton Kidder

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Jeff Dove

Communion: Marion Thomas

Contribution:

Jeff Bliss

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Jerry Butcher

Communion: Paul Hatcher

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Mike Wages

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Ronald Clouse

Communion: Ray Pack

June 11 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Opening Prayer:

Ray Pack

Devo - Marion Thomas

June 11 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Mike Wages

Devo - Greg Long

South Jackson Church of Christ

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(731) 437-9501

Service Times

Early Worship	6:00 AM
Gospel of Christ - WBBJ	5:00 AM
Sunday Bible Class	9:30 AM
Sunday AM Worship	10:30 AM
Sunday PM Worship	5:00 PM
Midweek Bible Study	6:30 PM