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## John 3

Part 4a John 3:14-21

## **Discussion Of Verses 14-21**

Words of Jesus or John the apostle

- John 3:14 "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up;
- John 3:15 so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life.
- John 3:16 "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 3:17 "For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.
- John 3:18 "He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.
- John 3:19 "This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil.
- John 3:20 "For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.
- John 3:21 "But he who practices the truth comes to the Light, so that his deeds may be manifested as having been wrought in God."
- 1. There has been much discussion concerning John 3:14-21 as to whether these are the words of Jesus or the words of John the apostle.
  - a. Some scholars believe Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus ended with verse 12 and others believe they ended with either verse 13 or 14 or 15.
  - b. It is very difficult to determined exactly where His conversation with Nicodemus ended.
  - c. Many believe they did not end until verse 21.
- 2. John did not make it clear exactly where Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus ended.
  - a. We may have strong opinions, but they are opinions.
  - b. We can be confident of the truthfulness of these words and put our trust in them since they are either the words of Jesus or the inspired words of John the apostle.
- 3. Some scholars believe verses 16-21 are the words of John the apostle.
  - a. It is argued the past tenses, such as "loved" and "gave" in John 3:16 are an unnatural way for Jesus to speak, but the words are consistent with what John does elsewhere in his writings.
  - b. John 3:19 is like the Prologue written by John. (Jn. 1:9-11).
- John 3:19 "This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil.