

Fake News/Real Jesus

Finding the Real Jesus in a Fake News World

Week #6: Eternal Life Giver — Many Christians know the famous words of John 3:16. But when did Jesus speak them? And why? And to whom? This message teaches this powerful verse in the context of the powerful verses around it, reminding us of the new life that only the born again can find.

- John 3:1-2 - *Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. 2 He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”*
- John 3:3-8 - *Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.” 4 “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!” 5 Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. 6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. 7 You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ 8 The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”*

200 proof truth #1 - New birth is **necessary** for **new** life.

- John 3:9-12 - *9 “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked. 10 “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? 11 Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. 12 I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things?*
- John 3:13-18 - *13 No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. 14 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, 15 that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.” 16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.*

200 proof truth #2 - Jesus is **necessary** for **eternal** life.

- John 3:19-21 - *19 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. 20 Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. 21 But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.*

Points To Ponder

1. John 3:16 is known and possibly has been memorized by every Christian and yet many don't know the context in which it was originally spoken. What new insight did you gain as you heard it in its context? What did hearing it in its context reveal to you about Jesus as a teacher?
2. Re-read John 3:3-8. How might you use these real words from Jesus when having a conversation about baptism with someone who doesn't believe in it or thinks it is unnecessary?
3. Re-read John 3:16-18. How might you use these real words from Jesus when having a conversation with someone who doesn't believe that believing in Jesus is necessary to go to heaven?

Homework: John 4