

## **The Purpose and Fallout of God Sending His Son**

**John 3:17-21**

**December 8, 2024**

What is faith?

### **The Purpose of God Sending His Son, v. 17**

That the fallen world might be saved through Him.

There is a way out of the darkness.

Why are hospitals built? What is their purpose?

Jesus was sent to save, not condemn, this time.

### **The Fallout of God Sending His Son, v. 18**

God sending His Son into the world was a success.

What does it mean to be saved?

How often do we repeat the sin of Adam and Eve?

Belief divides the saved from the condemned.

What is belief?

If you will not trust the faithful God and His Word, you are condemned already.

What is condemnation?

### **The Process of Judgment, v. 19**

What we do now reveals, or is the basis of, the future judgment.

“What we do now, echoes in eternity!” Gladiator

Why do we hide from the light?

### **Hiding Your Sin, v. 20**

Why do people avoid the pastor?

What is judgment? What is the light?

Trials reveal previously existing character.

### **True Deeds Welcome the Light, v. 21**

They come to the light to show what God has done through them.

There is even a pious way to hide in the darkness.

The invitation goes out to all.

## **Meditation**

In Christ, God has given us a kingdom. In this dark and evil world, Christ’s kingdom does yet look glorious. We still see a world where the proud are exalted and the humble are oppressed. We do not yet see the adversaries of the Lord being broken to pieces, or the wicked being cut off in darkness. But that day is coming, when the cosmic Ruler of the universe – Who reigns right now in truth and grace – returns to this world which belongs to Him, and the kingdoms of men will end, and the whole earth will be filled with righteousness, peace, and joy.

Until that day, we sing with Hannah and Mary and all the people of God. We take our place with them and joyfully sing of God’s great deliverance from our distress by sending His King and Anointed for our sakes. With Hannah, we say, *“My heart exults in the Lord...He brings down to Sheol and raises up...He raises up the poor from the dust; He lifts the needy from the ash heap to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor.”*

We sing *“Joy to the world! The Lord is come. Let earth receive her King.”* And every small deliverance that we enjoy in this life – every answered prayer, every birth of a child, every good gift we receive – is an expression of God’s faithfulness and goodness, and is a small reminder of the great deliverance He brings to us in the end, when He raises us from the dead and we sit with princes in the presence of the King.

Christ United Reformed Church