

John 3:17

(1)

Think about [John 3:16-17](#).

(Jesus said:) "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

The meaning of this word "*condemn*" is: to judge guilty and sentence to punishment.
The meaning of this word "*saved*" is: delivered from harm to safety.

- What is **not** the reason God sent his Son into the world?
 - What is the reason God sent his Son into the world?
 - What harm are believers in Jesus delivered from?
 - What safety are believers in Jesus delivered to?
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(2)

Think about [John 3:18](#).

(Jesus said:) Whoever believes in him (God's son) is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

- What is true of whoever believes in God's son?
 - What is true of whoever does not believe in God's son? Why is this true? (See John 3:18 quoted above.)
Also consider [1John 5:11-12](#). ... God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.
 - What does it mean to believe in the *name* of the only Son of God?
Consider [Acts 5:42](#). And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they (the apostles) did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.
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(3)

Think about [John 3:19-20](#).

(Jesus said:) *"And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed."*

The meaning of this word "condemnation" is: the judge's decision, or verdict.

- What is "*the light*" that has come into the world?
Consider [John 12:45-46](#). (Jesus said:) ... *"whoever sees me sees him who sent me. I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness."*
- What kinds of people does God judge guilty? (See John 3:19-20 quoted above.)
- Why do some people hate and keep away from the light? (See John 3:19-20 quoted above.)

(4)

Think about [John 3:21](#).

But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.

- Who comes to the light?
- What does it mean to "do what is true"?
Consider [Romans 2:5-10](#). ... *For a day of anger is coming, when God's righteous judgment will be revealed. He will judge everyone according to what they have done. He will give eternal life to those who keep on doing good, seeking after the glory and honor and immortality that God offers. But he will pour out his anger and wrath on those who live for themselves, **who refuse to obey the truth and instead live lives of wickedness.** There will be trouble and calamity for everyone who keeps on doing what is evil But there will be glory and honor and peace from God for all who do good*
- Why does someone come to the light? (See John 3:21 quoted above.)