

John 3:19-24

The Text of John 3:19-24

John 3:19-21 – *“(19) And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. (20) For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. (21) But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.”*

- A. After saying those who believe not are already condemned (**John 3:18**), Jesus begins teaching how His coming as light into the world brought condemnation (**Ephesians 5:11; 13**).
 - 1. If those in darkness wanted to see the light they would have listened to Jesus (**John 5:24** and **John 10:26-27**; cf. **Proverbs 29:1**).
 - 2. Noah working towards salvation brought condemnation into the world (**Hebrews 11:7**).
- B. Those that do evil hate the light and will not come to the light (**John 8:42-47**).
 - 1. Jesus is the light (**John 8:12**).
 - 2. If any came to Jesus their deeds would be reproved [admonish; tell a fault; expose] (**John 7:7**; cf. **Luke 11:37-54**).
 - 3. Many do not like to be reproved (**Proverbs 15:12** and **Amos 5:10**).
 - 4. Since those who do evil hate correction, their fate is sealed (**Proverbs 15:10**).
- C. Those who do the truth (**John 9:31**, **James 1:21-25**, and **I John 2:17**)...
 - 1. ...Come to Jesus and do what He says (**John 14:23**).
 - 2. ...Do not mind correction (**Job 5:17** and **Hebrews 12:5-11**).
 - 3. ...Want to allow their works to be manifest (**Proverbs 4:18** and **Matthew 5:14-16**).

John 3:22 – *“After these things came Jesus and his disciples into the land of Judea; and there he tarried with them, and baptized.”*

- A. Jesus and the disciples worked in the land of Judea, which was the region where Jesus was born (**Matthew 2:1**).
 - 1. John the Baptist had been readying the soil there (**Matthew 3:1**).
 - 2. The work of preaching in Judea did not end with Jesus or John (**Acts 26:20**).
 - 3. Consider the planting here as a contribution to future congregations in the region of Judea (**Acts 9:31** and **Galatians 1:22**).
 - 4. Notable congregations in the region of Judea included the church of Christ in Jerusalem (**Acts 15:1; 4; 24**).
- B. Jesus did not physically baptize people (**John 4:1-3**).
 - 1. Teaching is the work to be done (**I Corinthians 1:17**).
 - 2. Baptizing is a response to teaching (**Acts 2:41**).

3. Discipleship is not about following the one who helped you go down into the water (**I Corinthians 1:12-16; 3:1-7**).
4. A disciple of the Lord is one who obeys and continues to obey His will (**John 8:31**).

John 3:23-24 – *“(23) And John also was baptizing in Ænon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized. (24) For John was not yet cast into prison.”*

- A. Why did they baptize where there was much water?
 1. Much water is required because baptism is done by going down into the water and coming up out of the water (**Matthew 3:13-17** and **Acts 8:35-38**).
 2. Baptism is a burial that cannot occur with sprinkling or pouring water upon someone’s head (**Romans 6:3-6** and **Colossians 2:12**).
- B. John was later imprisoned and killed for preaching the truth (**Matthew 14:1-12**).
 1. Imprisonment for preaching the truth did not cease after Jesus and John left this earth (**Acts 5:12-18**).
 2. God’s workers have often been persecuted and even killed for preaching the truth (**Matthew 5:10-12**, **Matthew 10:16-18**, **Matthew 23:34**, and **II Timothy 3:12**).