

The Ways & Will of God

6: *Does God Love Everybody?* (John 3:16-21)

May 2, 2010

Pastor Kurt

A) The most famous & misunderstood verse in Scripture

- But right away Jesus tells us that “the world” is not just one homogeneous blob of humanity that God loves. (3:18, 36)

B) Faulty attempts at understanding John 3:16

- Don't dilute what God's condemnation & wrath mean (John 3:36; Rev 14:9-11)
- Scriptures teach that people are objects of God's wrath now (Ps 5:4, 11:5; Rom 1:18; Eph 2:1-3)
- Don't dilute what God's love means (1 Cor 13:5; Matt 5:45)

C) The need to properly understand John 3:16

- We do not want to lie about God, including when we share the Gospel.

D) The Meaning of John 3:16

- “World” in Scripture does not usually mean every single person (John 1:10, 29; 4:42; 6:51; 8:26; 1 John 5:19)
- By “world” John means people **“from every tribe and language and people and nation.”** (Rev 5:9; cf. Acts 11:1)

John 3:16 tells us that, while in the past, God had confined His love to one family in Noah's day, and just one nation throughout 1500 years of OT history, that with the coming of the New Covenant, God now loves people from every nation and race of humans. And it is in this way that God has now loved the whole world.