

CrossRoads Baptist Church  
January 6, 2008 10:00 a.m.  
John 3:13-17  
Core Values #1

### **“Jesus is the Only Choice”**

I believe this to be the greatest verse in the entire Bible. It is the best loved and best known verse. There are only 25 words in this verse yet no other single verse in all the Scriptures has been as blessed in the salvation of so many souls. Martin Luther called John 3:16 the miniature gospel. It has been called the gospel in a nutshell. It has been called a love letter from God written in blood and addressed to all. If ever there was a verse that Satan would love to blot out of the Bible, it would be John 3:16. If ever there was a verse that makes hell tremble, it is John 3:16. If ever there was a verse that has lightened the path to heaven for multitudes, it is John 3:16.

I want to speak to you about Jesus being the only choice. Jesus is not even a choice for you until He is your only choice. Why can I say that?

#### I. Jesus is the only choice because He is God’s only Son.

This verse says that Jesus is the “only begotten” means the one and only Son. This word was used for those who have only one child, like Isaac. In relation to God, Jesus is never called a child or son like believers (John 1:12). It’s not the same as a child.

He is the unique one because He is God. He is not partially God – or just a Son of God. He is the Son of God. He’s God.

#### II. Jesus is the only choice because He is God’s only choice for life.

Everybody wants life. We fight for life when death is close. We think if we buy the right clothes, eat at the right places and live in the right areas that it will “enhance” life.

But life does not come from position or possessions. Life comes from a person and that person is Jesus Christ.

Look at the text:

Verse 15 “Should not perish but have eternal life.”

Verse 16 “Should not perish but have everlasting life.”

This is one word though translated “eternal” and “everlasting.” Is there a difference or what is the meaning?

The word refers to both the quality and quantity of life. Both are essential. No one ever wants to have a good quality of life without a good quantity of life. And no one wants quantity without quality.

But with Jesus, you get both. The life here described is the life of God. Only God is eternal so the life He gives is His life – eternal life. It’s the kind of life God lives.

This life is everlasting – never ending. And we possess it now and we’ll never die.

How can we say that? Because of the spirit. When a person dies, the spirit or their breath leaves. The body doesn’t leave, but the spirit does. A person without Christ has not the Spirit of God. He’s already dead. He is alive physically but dead spiritually.

But once the Spirit comes into a person, he is alive forever. As long as there is breath, there is life!!

With Jesus, I am enjoying a greater expression and experience of life now than ever before.

There is no guilt, no condemnation, Romans 8:1 “There is no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus.”

God is working in my life bringing fresh revelation that is changing me not from the outside in, but from the inside out.

III. Jesus is the only choice because He is the only choice you have.

John 14: 6 “I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

When you really understand who you are and who Jesus is – then Jesus is the only choice you have.

If you still believe you have a choice of Christ and your own ways, then you are not ready to be saved and you will never be saved. But when you understand your ways is what has gotten you in the position and shape you are in today, then you will abandon that lost, sinking ship and throw yourself on the mercy of God.

“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” Acts 4: 12

This choice is made through faith, not intellect, not feelings, but trust.

“...who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.” John 1: 13

Verse 15 – “whoever believes”

Verse 16 – “whoever believes”

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John gives us an illustration to help us understand this with the story of the brazen serpent which is found in Numbers 21. There was a 1. Problem – serpents biting the people and they died. 2. Plan – Moses fashioned a serpent out of bronze. 3. Promise – there was healing for those who would look and believe.

This is a picture of Christ. 1. Problem – we are dying, not just physically, but spiritually. 2. Plan – God fashioned himself as a man – part of the problem – and lifted Him up on the cross 3. Promise – everyone who looks, believing as their only hope will be saved.

Are you at the place where you see Christ as your only choice. If not do not fool yourself that if you start going to church you will be alright or if you say a prayer you will be saved. Your only choice is Jesus.