

A Verse to Remember 1

This is totally your study. Nobody will be instructing you and nobody will be grading you. It will just be you, your Bible, these lessons, your own paper, and of course, the Holy Spirit guiding and teaching you.

VERSE	John 3:16
TEXT - NKJV	<i>For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.</i>

BOOK	The Gospel of John
PURPOSE OF BOOK	To persuade the audience that Jesus Christ is God

CHAPTER	3
THEME OF CHAPTER	A response to Nicodemus by Jesus about how to be "born again" or become a Christian or enter the Kingdom of God.

What seemed important to Nicodemus was where Jesus came from? Where did Jesus come from? (3:2)

If we assume that the "Kingdom of God" is where Jesus came from, and that Nicodemus wants to go there, then what must Nicodemus do? (3:3)

What was confusing Nicodemus? (3:4)

If we assume that being "born of water" is physical birth, and that being "born of the Spirit" is a spiritual birth, then which of these is/are required to get into the "Kingdom of God"? (3:5-8)

Obviously, Nicodemus was a human born from his mother years before. Jesus said that a person has to be a human to get into the "Kingdom of God". However, what else needs to happen to get into God's family (3:8).

Being “born of the Spirit” seems to involve something that is “Heavenly”, something “from above”. How can we get access to the Spirit Who gets us into the “Kingdom of God” if we are down here on earth? (3:13)

Jesus reminded Nicodemus of the Old Testament story in Numbers 21:9. What happened in that story?

Nicodemus should have remembered that story. He taught the Old Testament. He knew the Jews helplessly were being bitten by snakes because they “bad-mouthed” God. He knew that they would all PERISH (or die) in that desert.

How do we know that God loved those people out in that desert?

What did that bronze snake on the pole mean? Where would their help have to come from? Who would be the only one Who could help? (3:14)

Who is the Son of Man? (3:15) _____

Are we not also dying from the fatal bites of sin here in this evil world. Without God getting involved, we are doomed. Read the verse again (3:16).

Christ was hung up on that cross to “get bitten” for us. He took the penalty for our sin (“God gave His Son”).

So, what was God’s attitude toward the world? (3:16) _____

What did we (world) have to do? (3:16) _____

What did not happen to us? (3:16) _____

What did we get? (3:16) _____

When the Jews were saved from the snakes, they lived then, but they all died of old age later. So, “everlasting life” must be more than being rescued from snakes. It is a life of forgiveness from our sin, and a hope, a victory & a home with God.