



Are You the Whosoever?

From the Pastor's Desk

One Great Message, from One Great Verse: John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whosoever believes in Him, would not perish, but have everlasting life."

Have you ever had anyone cut you off while driving? Have you ever had anyone look at you as if you have two heads? Have you ever had anyone tell you off because of what you said? Do you know someone who just doesn't like you? If you haven't I would be quite surprised.

We live in a fallen world in which we exist with many different kinds of personalities and dispositions. It is a society that, metaphorically speaking, yells from the mountain top "I am the most important one in my world, so get along or get out of the way." If you let yourself stop and dwell on it, such a world can drastically drag you down into the pit of despair and frustration.

I admit that it can be terribly irritating to be around such people, but have you ever stopped to think about the other person in such a way that Christ died for them too? If you haven't thought of it, then let me encourage you to start interacting with others around you like you have thought of it. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is for everyone and what is nice is that it is wrapped up into one verse in Scripture, that verse is John 3:16. This one great message from this one great verse can answer man's deepest needs and answer his biggest questions to life.

A couple of weeks ago I had the opportunity to hear a very well-delivered sermon on John 3:16. The sermon was so good that I, in a type of subconscious way, picked up a new book off my shelf on the very subject. (I have a bookcase in my office in which I have fifty or so books which I haven't yet read, so that is why it is new to me.) The book is entitled "Whosoever Will" and without really noticing it at the bottom, there was a small excerpt that said "Reflections from the John 3:16 Conference."

The whole book is about a need to argue for the reality that the gospel message is for anyone who will accept. In the very first chapter of the book there is an article by Jerry Vines who is noted in Christian circles as one of the best

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Feb. 4, 8:00 a.m. – Men's Breakfast

The men share a meal, then engage in a Bible discussion.

Feb. 5, 10:45 a.m. – Lord's Supper

Feb. 11, 5:00 p.m. – Valentine's Day Dinner

The men cook a special dinner for the ladies.

Feb. 14 – Valentine's Day

Feb. 19, Noon – Church Council

Planning church activities and events for the next several months.

Weekly:

Sundays at 8:30 a.m. – Music Practice

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

Sundays at 10:45 a.m. – Worship Service

Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m. – Adult Bible Study

known preachers and writers on sermons. The article of course is on John 3:16 in which he writes on how important this simple verse in the Gospel of John is.

On page 14, in regard to meeting the needs of everyone, he states, "John 3:16 addresses a number of 'isms.' The phrase 'For God' responds to atheism, which claims there is no God. The phrase 'so loved' responds to fatalism, which asserts God is an impersonal force. The phrase 'the world' responds to nationalism, which says God loves only one group of people. The phrase 'that He gave' responds to materialism, which says it is more blessed to receive than to give. The phrase 'His only begotten Son' responds to Mohammedism, which says God has no Son.

The phrase 'that whosoever believes' responds to five-point Calvinism, which says Christ died only for the elect. The phrase 'in Him' responds to pluralism, which says all religions are equal. The phrase 'should not perish' responds to annihilationism, which says there is no hell. The phrase 'but have everlasting life' responds to Arminianism, which says God only gives life conditionally.

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Pastor's Desk (from p. 1)

John 3:16 is a simple biblicalism which reveals the mind, the heart, and the will of God."

If you get a chance please read through that quote one more time. The statement is concise and speaks to the point: God sent His Son that all who receive Him will live with Him forever, but all who do not receive Him will perish for the same amount of time. This verse is a sermon in a nutshell of eternal life in Christ to anyone who will stop and hear you preach it.

It is a verse that should make all stop and ask "Am I the whosoever?" Of course the answer is yes, you are. He is, she is, they are, I am, we all are the whosoever who can accept the salvation of Jesus Christ. Let me encourage you once again to be prepared to share this message.

I know that this verse has been used so many times that it seems to have lost its punch, but the truth is the only punch it has lost is in the sight of many in the Christian community. To the world outside of our Christian circles, this is a verse that is yet to be learned in their life. Please take the time to recognize the need to share this one great message from one great verse and who knows you just might see some come into the kingdom through your faithfulness to share.

God bless,
✠ Pastor Jim

Men's Breakfast



On Saturday Feb. 4 at 8:00 a.m., the guys will meet for Men's Breakfast. If you have not been there, you are missing a good time. Mike is the chef du jour.

There will probably be a bit of talk during breakfast about the upcoming Super Bowl, but then we will dig into Scripture and work through the final chapter of the Book of Mark.

You never know what new stuff you will learn but that's one of the benefits of this time together. Set the alarm clock and come on over!

Valentine's Dinner



On Saturday, Feb. 11 at 5:00 p.m., the men will serve a sumptuous dinner for the ladies at the annual Valentine Dinner. If you would like to attend, please let Dale know. If you can help prepare the meal, also let Dale know.

Property and Space Patrol

We have been blessed with very little snow so there hasn't been much need for plowing. Spring is coming.

✠ Pastor Al Page

Don't Argue with Children

This was found on the web:

A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales.

The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because, even though it was a very large mammal, its throat was very small.

The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale.

Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human, that it was physically impossible.

The little girl said, "When I get to heaven, I will ask Jonah."

The teacher asked, "What if Jonah went to hell?"

The little girl replied, "Then *you* ask him."

The String of Husbands

Found on the web:

The local news station was interviewing an 80-year-old lady because she had just gotten married for the fourth time.

The interviewer asked her questions about her life, about what it is like to be marrying again at 80, and then about her new husband's occupation.

"He's a funeral director," she answered.

"Interesting," the newsman thought. He then asked her if she wouldn't mind telling him a little about her first three husbands and what they did for a living.

She paused for a few moments, needing time to reflect on all those years.

After a short time, a smile came to her face and she answered proudly, explaining that she'd first married a banker when she was in her early 20s, then a circus ringmaster when in her 40s, later on a preacher when in her 60s, and now in her 80s, a funeral director.

The interviewer looked at her, quite astonished, and asked why she had married four men with such diverse careers.

She smiled and explained, "I married one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, and four to go."

How the Internet Came to Be

This article was submitted by Wilson Thomas, who maintains the NHBA web site and who also has a side interest in techno-archaeology. Read on:

In ancient Israel, it came to pass that a trader by the name of Abraham Com did take unto himself a young wife by the name of Dot. And Dot Com was a comely woman, broad of shoulder and long of leg. Indeed, she was often called Amazon Dot Com.

And she said unto Abraham, her husband, "Why dost thou travel so far from town to town with thy goods when thou canst trade without ever leaving thy tent?"

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Internet (from p. 2)

And Abraham did look at her as though she were several saddle bags short of a camel load, but simply said, "How, dear?"

And Dot replied, "I will place drums in all the towns and drums in between to send messages saying what you have for sale, and they will reply telling you who hath the best price. And the sale can be made on the drums and delivery made by Uriah's Pony Stable (UPS).

Abraham thought long and decided he would let Dot have her way with the drums. And the drums rang out and were an immediate success. Abraham sold all the goods he had at the top price, without ever having to move from his tent. To prevent neighboring countries from overhearing what the drums were saying Dot devised a system that only she and the drummers knew. It was known as Must Send Drum Over Sound (MSDOS), and she also developed a language to transmit ideas and pictures - Hebrew To The People (HTTP).

And the young men did take to Dot Com's trading as doth the greedy horsefly take to camel dung. They were called Nomadic Ecclesiastical Rich Damascan Syrians, or NERDS.

And lo, the land was so feverish with joy at the new riches and the deafening sound of drums that no one noticed that the real riches were going to that enterprising drum dealer, Brother William of Gates, who bought off every drum maker in the land. And indeed did insist on drums to be made that would work only with Brother Gates' drumheads and drumsticks.

And Dot did say, "Oh, Abraham, what we have started is being taken over by others." And Abraham looked out over the Bay of Ezekiel, or eBay as it came to be known. He said, "We need a name that reflects what we are."

And Dot replied, "Young Ambitious Hebrew Owner-Operators." "YAHOO," said Abraham. And because it was Dot's idea, they named it YAHOO Dot Com.

Abraham's cousin, Joshua, being the young Gregarious Energetic Educated Kid (GEEK) that he was, soon started using Dot's drums to locate things around the countryside. It soon became known as God's Own Official Guide to Locating Everything (GOOGLE).

That is how it all began. And that's the truth.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



Hillside wishes a happy, happy, happy birthday to the following people who are celebrating a birthday this month:

- 2/11 Joanne Moore
- 2/12 Leon Bubacz
- 2/18 Ruth Bachand
- 2/21 Charlotte Hastings



Hillside also wishes God's blessing on the following people who celebrate a wedding anniversary this month:

- 2/15 Michael & Gail Frascinella

Prayer Requests

If you need us to pray for a physical, spiritual, financial, marital, or other need, contact Pastor Jim, Pastor Al, Dale Greenly, or Michael Frascinella and they will get the word out to the membership. It will be our duty and privilege to lift you up in prayer to Jesus our Lord.

On the Web

Go to the Hillside web site <http://www.hillsidebaptistnh.org/> for more information about our fellowship, including this newsletter in PDF format.

Next Issue

Deadline is Feb. 25. Send news items to News Wrangler Michael Frascinella, mfrascinella at comcast dot net.



Hillside Baptist Church is a member of the New Hampshire Baptist Association, part of the Southern Baptist Convention.



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Modeling the truth of God's Word

