



Title | The Saving Purpose of Jesus's Suffering
Series | Suffering Embraced
Text | John 3:1-16
By | Bob Kerrey
Date | April 20, 2025

Sermon Notes

John 3:1 Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. 2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." 3 Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." 4 Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" 5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." 9 Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" 10 Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? 11 Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. 12 If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? 13 No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. 14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." *ESV*

Big Idea:

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." *ESV*

For Reflection and Application:

Monday:

Read John 3:1-16. Why is it significant to know that the words of Jesus in John 3 were spoken to a God-fearing, Bible-believing, devoutly religious, morally upright man who had given his life to public service and upholding traditional values? Are there some things you need to reconsider about your faith?

Tuesday:

Consider carefully and slowly each word of John 3:16 as it relates to you personally. “For God so loved *me* that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him, including *me*, should not perish but have eternal life.” Give thanks for the parts of John 3:16 that are meaningful to you.

Wednesday:

In John 3:14-15, Jesus compares his coming crucifixion with an event from the past, recorded in Numbers 21:4-9. How are the two events related? What is required for salvation in each?

Thursday:

Read the prophetic description of Jesus in Isaiah 53:3-10, which was written hundreds of years before he came. Was any part of Jesus’s suffering deserved? What is the good that came from Jesus’s suffering?

Friday:

Read Romans 8:32. What evidence do we have that we can trust God with our well-being even when we suffer inexplicably?

Daily Prayer:

Lord, based on the death and resurrection of Jesus for our sins, you promise that whoever believes in Jesus has eternal life. Thank you that “whoever” includes me! Amen.

If you would like to have the daily reflection and application emailed to you, scan the QR code or email info@moonvalleybible.org.

