
8 Words That Define Christmas

New Hope Community Church
Dr. Jack Bracy, December 16, 2018

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.” *John 3:16–18, ESV*

1. “For God So Loved...”

“Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn’t worship him as God or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused.” *Romans 1:21, NLT*

2. “For God so loved the world . . .”

“The world can’t hate you, but it does hate me because I accuse it of doing evil.” *John 7:7, NLT*

“Even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him...” *John 14:17, ESV*

They Are the Whoever’s in The Second Part of The Verse

3. “...That he gave . . .”

It Is a Giving from Heaven.

Not Just to Come to Earth, But to Die

“For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.” *vs17*

“The Father loves me because I am willing to give up my life, in order that I may receive it back again. No one takes my life away from me. I give it up of my own free will. I have the right to give it up, and I have the right to take it back. This is what my Father has commanded me to do.” *John 10:17–18, GNB*

We Cannot Talk About the Manger
Without Talking About the Cross

4. “... His only Son. . .”

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” *John 1:1, ESV*

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.” *John 1:14, ESV*

“He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature...” *Hebrews 1:3, ESV*

5. “... That whoever believes in him. . .”

“He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,” *John 1:11–12, ESV*

“Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.” *John 6:35, ESV*

6. “... Should not perish . . .”

“Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already...” vs18

“Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.” **John 3:36, ESV**

Perishing Means Staying Condemned
Forever Under God’s Wrath

7. “But have *eternal life*.”

“It is the Spirit who gives life” **John 6:63, ESV**

“God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.” **1 John 5:11, ESV**

“Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”” **John 11:25–26, ESV**

Because I Am United with Jesus Through Believing –
I Get His Life

“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” **John 1:29, ESV**

The 8th Word?

Love