

John 3:17

For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

I think we all love and can quote **John 3:16**.

† **John 3:16** *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.*

And we even love **John 3:17**, even though most do not have it memorized and can not quote it. But we love where Jesus said, “*For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn*” Because we have all felt condemnation before we came to Jesus, and as believers we should not feel condemnation, as the scriptures says:

† **Romans 8:1** *There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.*

So, if Jesus did not come into the world to condemn the world, why do we think that we should condemn it? We hear that and think, “I don’t do that.” Well, let’s look at **John 3:17** from the Message bible:

† **John 3:17 (MSG)** *God didn't go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to help, to put the world right again.*

Hmm, that kind of makes us take a step back and wonder if we are condemning the world, because how many times have we watched the news or heard stories about things going on in the world through Social Media or just talking with friends or coworkers, and when we hear and even see some of these things we “*point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was*”.

This is not a teaching to condemn us or point fingers at one another, because we have all done it, and honestly we are tired of seeing and hearing about the awful things that are going on in the world today. But here is a thought, what if when we watched the news and heard about some of these things, instead of complaining and “*point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it is*” yelling at the people on TV for the bad things they are doing, if we stopped and prayed for them instead. Once again, didn’t Jesus say:

† **Matthew 5:44** *But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you.*

Even Paul reminds us that:

† **1 Corinthians 6:11** *And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.*

Yea, we were no better then the world, because for all of us we know that “*such were some of you (us)*”. So if we “*were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.*” Don’t you think that they can be “*were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God*” to?

We have been given the awesome privilege to come before the throne of God anytime we want to and ask of God anything that we want. And we have no problem coming to Him on our own behalf. So why don’t we start going to God on behalf of a dying world that needs Jesus just like we all did, and still do.

† **Psalm 118:17 (MSG)** *I didn't die. I lived! And now I'm telling the world what GOD did.*

† **1 Corinthians 14:13 (MSG)** *So, when you pray in your private prayer language, don't hoard the experience for yourself. Pray for the insight and ability to bring others into that intimacy.*

† **John 17:15-19** *I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.*