

Daniel Perrin – Lesson 9: The Source of Life – Thursday, November 28: Condemnation

1. This is a topic we want to spend little time on,
 - a. Our preference is often to focus on what FEELS LIKE positive statements.
 - b. But it will open up a window of understanding God's Character of love / how He deals with sinners

2. The lesson authors have given us a list of texts to look up.
 - a. **John 1:10** – *He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.*
 - IGNORANCE of sin's solution
 - NOT just mental knowing – NO connection / submission
 - What is HE in this text? **John 1:9** – *That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.*
 - When you reject LIGHT, what are you left with?
 - **John 3:19** –
 - Open to Misunderstanding
 - It's the experience of Groping / Accepting ANY idea as truth

 - b. **John 3:18** – *“He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*
 - Belief is a choice
 - CONDEMNED already
 - ALREADY standing on the wrong side — awaiting future results

 - c. **John 3:36** – *He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”*
 - The Opposite: **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.*
 - There are only two states of life right NOW: Already Condemned OR NO Condemnation
 - Wrath is ALREADY on him
 - His life is revealing it
 - God has provided a way for sinful people to escape the power and the consequences of sin
 - But if we refuse to be separated from sin, the inevitable result is that we will be destroyed with it

 - d. **John 5:24** – *“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.*
 - Many of us HEAR Jesus' words, but do we believe (that's REAL hearing)
 - And if we're NOT hearing Jesus' words, WHOSE words are we hearing?
 - We open ourselves up to temptation
 - Only Jesus' words lead to salvation / all others to condemnation

 - e. **John 5:38** – *But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe.*
 - What did Jesus say in **John 6:63** – *The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.*
 - Speaking in a physical sense, we could say, you don't have any air inside you. You have shut your mouth and plugged your nose so that you can't get any oxygen.
 - You're dying – You're going to die – You're condemned to die!
 - **John 5:39–40** – REJECTING SCRIPTURE

- f. **John 8:24** – *Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.*
- Staying with the visual metaphor — you plug your nose cover your mouth and eventually YOU WILL DIE in your air-less environment
 - This is not an imposed penalty voted by the Legislature
 - Condemnation is not an extrinsic punishment
 - Not an arbitrary consequence
 - Not a vindictive backlash from God
 - If you reject Jesus who *“In Him was life, and the life was the light of men”* (John 1:4)
 - You reject life / You HAVE no-life / Life-less / Death
- g. **John 12:47–48** – *And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. ⁴⁸ He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.*
- The word “judges” and “judge” is the same Greek word for “Condemn”
 - WHO CONDEMNS?
 - **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.*
 - **Romans 8:33-34** – *Who shall bring a charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.*
 - **Verse 34 NIV** – *Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.*
3. What happens IF you believe – NOT just a mental assent to facts — this is FULL Agreement through Submission and willing obedience because of a connection of love.
- a. Sins forgiven
 - b. Life restored
 - c. Abundant life — NOT condemned
4. What happens if you DON’T believe?
- a. Well, you don’t have Sins forgiven / You don’t have Life restored / You don’t have Abundant Life
 - You REMAIN in your condition
 - b. FOR NOW, Even if you DON’T believe, God is granting your life
 - In Eden, Adam and Eve forfeited their right to life, air, water
 - None of that was theirs, and they had NO claim to it any more
 - They were condemned — BUT God doesn’t want us to be condemned
 - God provides the way of escape — NO Condemnation “In Christ Jesus”

Selected Messages v.2, p.231.1 – *The Lord is full of compassion for His suffering ones. What sins are too great for His pardon? He is merciful, and as such is infinitely more ready and more pleased to pardon than to condemn. He is gracious, not looking for wrong in us; He knoweth our frame; He remembereth that we are but dust. In His boundless compassion and mercy He heals all our backslidings, loving us freely while we are yet sinners, withdrawing not His light, but shining on us for Christ's sake.*