

HOW AND WHY TO WITNESS TO “WHOEVER”

JOHN 3:17-36

Please personalize answers to the questions in the lesson by answering “I”, not “you”!

BACKGROUND: In **John 3:16 to John 3:36** count the number of times the word “whoever” is used to see to whom the gospel is to be proclaimed.

WHY? Spiritually speaking, every person is born dead in his sin that has been inherited from Adam. Therefore, he is born under God’s condemnation and must be born again to new life. However, Satan and the attractiveness of the life of this world blind the unbeliever to his helpless state and the condemnation of a Holy God that he must face. (**John 3:17-21, fn 3:18, fn 3:19-21, Ephesians 2:1, Romans 1:18-25, fn 1:18, fn 1:25, John 3:3, fn 3:3, Revelation 20:11-15, fn 20:14, I John 1:3, fn 1:3, 4**) *Why does God want people to be born again?*

HOW? Jesus must become greater to us than ourselves. In some measure, each of us wants the “limelight” to shine on our achievements and successes. But “it is He that has made us and not we ourselves” (**Psalm 100:3**) Only when you shine the “limelight” on Jesus and what He has done in your life, the power of God through the gospel can bring salvation to others through your testimony. (**John 3:22-30, fn 3:25ff, fn 3:26, fn 3:30, Romans 1:16, 17, fn 1:16[1st], fn 1:17, Ephesians 2:8, 9, fn 2:8, 9, John 5:24, fn 5:24, I Peter 3:15, fn 3:15**) *In your life’s story or testimony, how are you becoming less and Jesus becoming greater?*

FOR WHOEVER—To receive Christ is to respond to the Holy Spirit’s prompting to believe. To reject Christ is to respond in unbelief by self-justification and self-control. Therefore, the wrath and condemnation of God remains on the unbeliever because he has rejected God’s offer of forgiveness and eternal life. (**John 3:31-36, fn 3:31-35, fn 3:36[1st], fn 3:36[2nd], John 1:12, 13, fn 1:12, 13, Colossians 1:21, 22, fn 1:21, fn 1:21, 22, Ephesians 4:17-19, fn 4:17, Romans 8:1, fn 8:1**) *When you die and stand before the Lord, why would He let you into heaven?*

*Check up—How is your relationship with your neighbor, your spouse, and your Lord?
Do your actions show that you are being led by the Holy Spirit?*

