

Those Who Heard and Responded

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John 1:6-13

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. ⁸He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. ⁹That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. ¹¹He came unto his own, and his own received him not. ¹²But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: ¹³Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

Lights every man that comes into the world – Romans 1:19-21

Lightens every man with the light of creation and the light of conscience

Christ is the light – Verse 9

The light was rejected – Verse 10

- I. The light was rejected by the world at large (verse 10)
 - a. Christ made them, gave them light of conscience, creation, light of His own life, and the people looked upon Him and knew Him not.
 - b. Even though the world at large would reject Him, His own special people would receive Him.
- II. The light was received
 - a. How was it received? (verse 12) received by faith... to those believing in His name
 - b. They did not earn the power to become sons of God, this power was given as a free gift.
 - c. The light is received by supernatural regeneration. Where do the people come from who receive Him? What is behind the change in attitude with believers, versus those who reject Christ? They were born... they had experienced a new birth, they were born again. He is not talking about a physical birth. He is talking about something beyond and above... spiritual birth, new nature, born-again.
 - d. Which were born not of blood-this regeneration of the inner man and new response to Christ, was not a result of physical descent or who we are related to. The Jews made a

big fact that they were physical children of Abraham... not of ancestry. The new birth has nothing to do with blood or who your parents are.

- e. Nor is it of the human flesh. Not of ourselves or our own will. It is not of natural inclination. In Romans 8:6 for to be fleshly minded is death... not subject nor indeed can it be. Here are the positive points, here are the negative points, I chose Christ. No! Men are not inclined towards good and God, but towards evil and hatred of God. Our own flesh is not the means of the cause of the new birth, it could not and would not chose God.
 - f. Not caused by the will of others. Nor by the will of man. Other people cannot cause or bring about the new birth. Roman Catholics and Lutherans tell it, the doctrine of baptismal regeneration. When you take that baby, he is regenerated by the will of man. It is not due to the desired of others. If the new birth is not cause by physical descent, or our will, or the will of others who is it caused by? By God.
 - g. God caused the new birth. It is of God's
 - h. James 1:18 – Every good and perfect gift comes down, one of those good and perfect gifts of HIS OWN WILL BEGOT HE US by means of the word of truth in order that we should become a kind of firstfruits
 - i. John 1:13, rules out the cause of human will
 - j. James 1:18 rules in the cause of the will of God
 - k. If the new birth is going to take place in the heart of a person, it must be because God has caused it.
 - l. John 1:12 – you need to receive Christ, you need to believe on Christ- human standpoint
 - m. John 1:13 – they must be born of God by His own will.
 - n. First the work of God in the new birth, then the response of man.
 - o. If there were no verse 13 there would be no verse 12, you would only have verse 11 and verse 10. Verse 10 and 11 are the natural response of man. Christ comes, they don't know, they don't receive, but out of that mass of humanity, God elects some to be saved by His own will, and brings it to come to fruition by they new birth, and as a result the receive Christ. How
- III. How was it received, by Simple faith that resulted in spiritual regeneration