

Biblical Notes – John 3:18

18 – He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. (18. ὁ πιστεύων εἰς αὐτὸν οὐ κρίνεται· ὁ μὴ πιστεύων ἤδη κέκριται, ὅτι μὴ πεπίστευκεν εἰς τὸ ὄνομα τοῦ μονογενοῦς υἱοῦ τοῦ θεοῦ)

“That refusal to believe in the name of God’s Son is a ground of condemnation is not disputed. The question at issue is whether this is now the only ground of condemnation. John 3:18 does not say it is. Nor does any other passage. If it did, the Scriptures would contradict themselves, for as shown above, there are many passages which afford positive proof that God does reckon men guilty of other sins. The truth is, that man is “under condemnation” long before he ever hears of Christ: he is under condemnation from the hour of his birth. He is not only “shapen in iniquity and conceived in sin” (Psa 51:5), but he is also “estranged from the womb” (Psa 58:3). We not only inherit Adam’s depravity, but we are also “by nature the children [not merely of ‘corruption,’ but] of wrath” (Eph 2:3). The unregenerate are not only devoid of any spiritual nature, they are also “alienated from the life of God.”

—— A.W. Pink, The Atoning Sacrifice of Christ.