

**A Look at the Lost**  
**John 3:14-16**  
By Russ Earl

Thesis: I want to take a look at the Lost from a Biblical perspective.

Intro:

1. Is it true people are lost? If not, what
  - a. Is so wonderful about God's love?
  - b. Is so amazing about God's grace?
  - c. Why did Jesus come to earth? (**Lk 19:10**)
  - d. Why is salvation so great? (**Heb 2:1-4**)
2. Who is convinced that people are lost?
  - a. Do you pray for the lost, maybe even individually?
  - b. Do we recognize the severe cost for being lost.
  - c. If we are not convinced people are lost, should we be surprised if the lost are not convinced?

I. An Illustration

- A. The O.T. was written for our learning (**Rom 15:4**)
- B. The murmuring Israelites (**Num 21:4a-5**).
- C. The deadly "venom" of sin can:
  1. Deceive the tragedy of sin-missing the mark.
  2. Blind minds to the consequences of sin.
  3. Deaden the conscience (**Eph 4:17-19**)
  4. Enslave the life (**Rom 8:1-3**)

II. A Declaration

- A. Jesus used the word twice: *Perish*
- B. People *are* perishing.
- C. To *perish* does not mean "go out of existence" (**Mk 9:44, 46,48**).
- D. **The word does not mean the loss of being, but the loss of well-being.**

III. An Explanation

- A. Men love darkness (**Jn 3:19-20**)
- B. The devil is their father (**Jn 8:43-44**)
  1. The liar: "You can live anyway you choose—no consequences" (**Gal 6:7-8**).
  2. The liar: "You cannot know the truth" (**Jn 8:31-32**).
    - a. "What you do not know will not hurt you."
    - b. "Everything is relative"
  3. The liar: "You don't have to obey the Lord, just believe in Him" (**Mt 7:21-22**)
  4. The liar: "Everybody will be saved" (**Mt 7:13-14**)
  5. The liar: "Saved by God's grace exclusive of any human response" (**Eph 2:8-9**; "through faith")
  6. The liar: "Dave by faith only" (**James 2:24**)
  7. The liar: "Don't have to be in the church to be saved" (**Eph 2:16**)

Conc:

1. The saved need to **know** that people are lost—now.
2. Those lost now will be lost eternally—unless they are saved.

### **Hear**

Romans 10:17

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

### **Believe**

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever + in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

### **Repent**

Luke 13:3

I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.

### **Confess**

Rom 10:9 — Rom 10:10

that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

### **Be baptized**

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 22:16

And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.’

### **Remain Faithful**

Revelation 2:10

Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.