



John the Evangelist & Peter  
by Albrecht Dürer (1526)

# Gospel of John

12-17-22

- 1a In the Beginning – Love from Eternal Past
- 1b Come & See – Love Calls Forth Disciples
- 2-3 Everyone Who Believes
- 4 But Whoever Drinks
- 5 Pick Up Your Mat
- 6 I Am Bread
- 7 He Sent Me
- 8 I Am the Light
- 9 You Have Seen Me
- 10 I Know My Own
- 11 I Am the Resurrection



3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have Eternal Life.



For God so

Loved the World





**John 3:16** — Bible in Miniature — First Memorized  
For God so **LOVED** the WORLD  
that He gave His One and only Son,  
that whoever believes in Him  
shall not perish but have **ETERNAL LIFE**.

**Most well-known verse ...**

**Of which translation ALL agree**

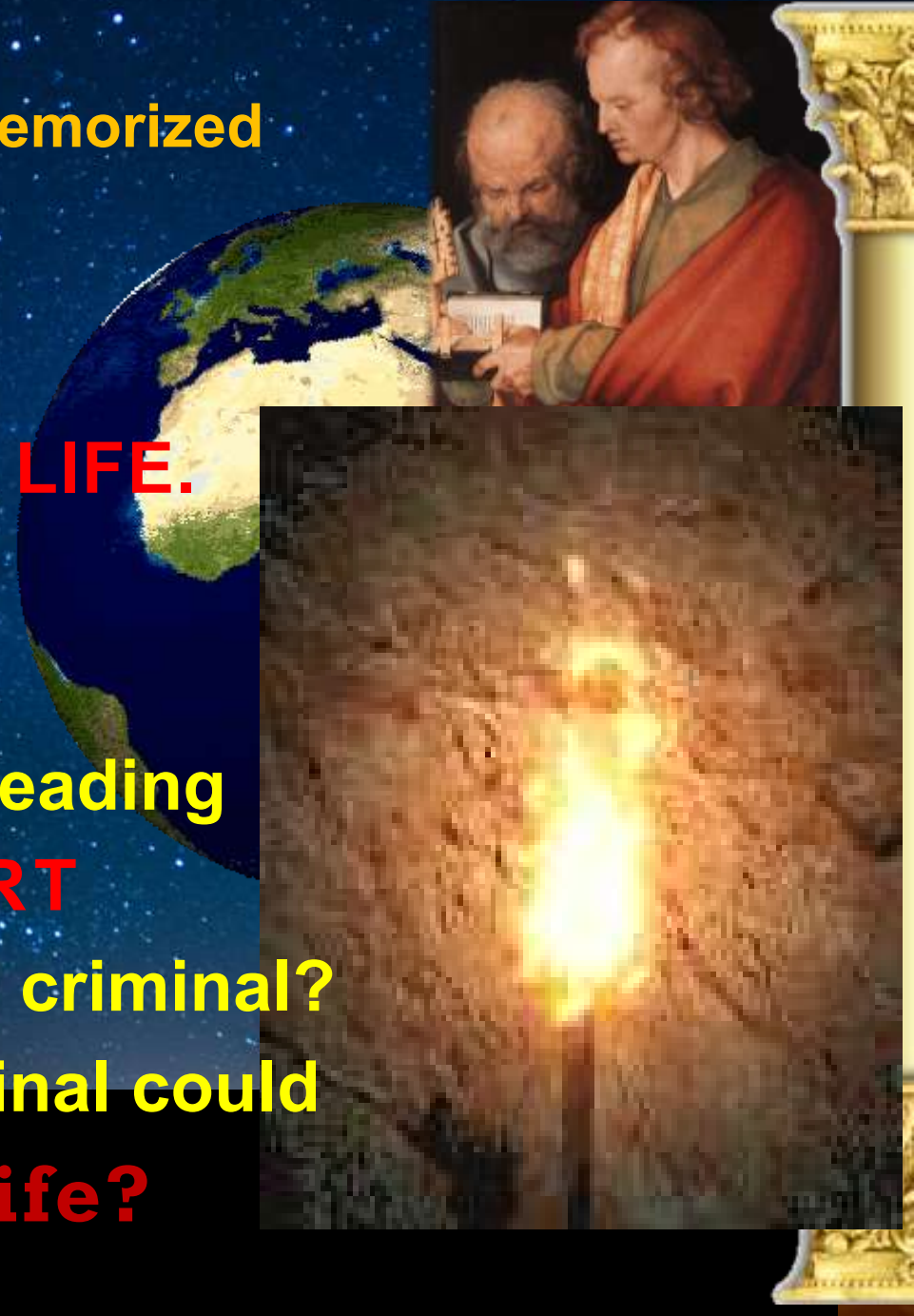
**Of which words seem CLEAR on first reading**

**Yet, whose depth reaches God's HEART**

**Who ELSE would give THEIR Son for a criminal?**

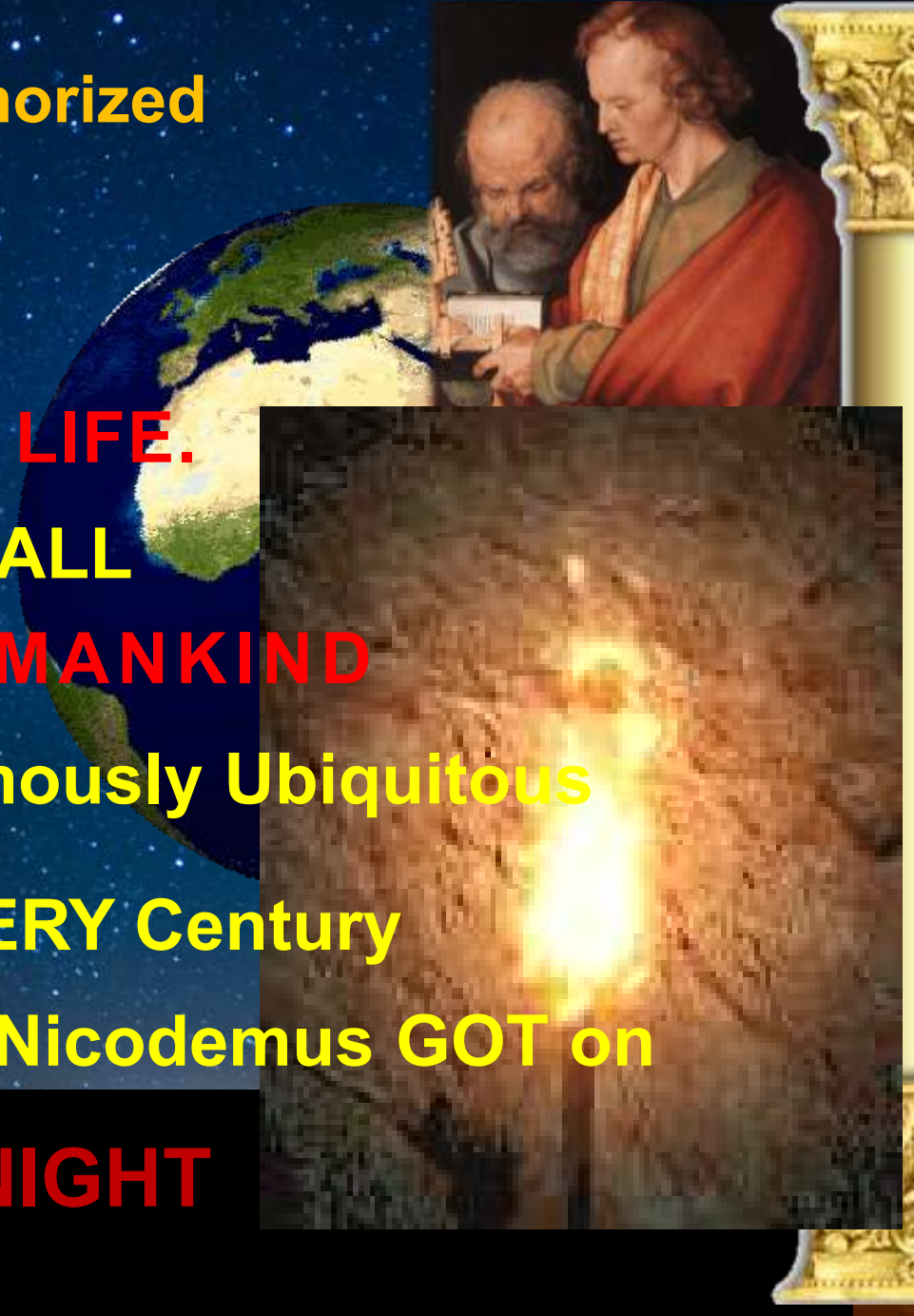
**Who ELSE would give so that the criminal could**

**Inherit Eternal Life?**



John 3:16 – Bible in Miniature – First Memorized  
For God so **LOVED** the WORLD  
that He gave His One and only Son,  
that whoever believes in Him  
shall not perish but have **ETERNAL LIFE**.

Sums the PLAN & Sacrifice of God for ALL  
**SON** is also the **LIGHT & LIFE** of HUMANKIND  
So Monumentally Memorable – Unanimously Ubiquitous  
EVERY Christian ~ EVERY Stripe ~ EVERY Century  
*for* Two Millenia has Memorized what Nicodemus GOT on  
that Single Solitary NIGHT





Nicodemus came to Jesus by night  
we'll get to Nicodemus soon enough ...

WHY did he go?

HOW did he FIND Jesus in Jerusalem?

Of the 3x we see Nicodemus, THIS has to be his

**Most Memorable Moment**

Moments that **MEAN** the **WORLD** to us

Unforgettable Moments ... Moments that **MOVE US**

Moments that **SHAPE / MARK** us for the **Rest of Our LIVES**

Nicodemus – John 3 was **HIS** Unforgettable Moment





**What about YOU? ... each of YOU too  
certainly have had a few such Marking Moments**

**Here's one I found  
on Facebook**

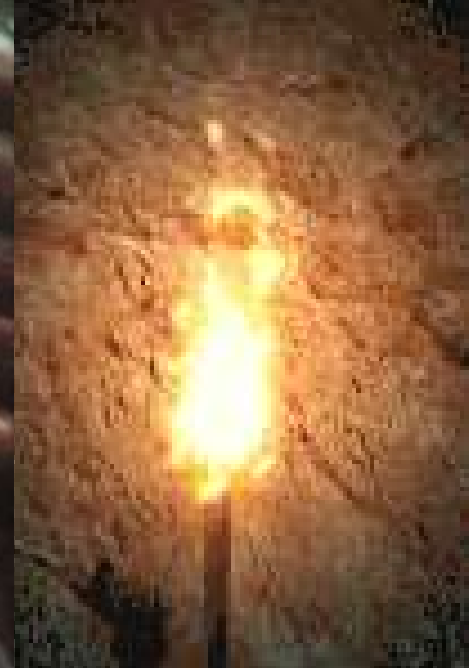
**Kooter, Richard, & Charlie**

**You KNOW ... KNOW**

**If Nicodemus had had a  
cell phone ... he would've**

**Taken a Selfie of**

**Himself & Jesus after Jesus finished John 3**





Kind of like this song by Jamey Johnson ...  
got over 117 MILLION views on YouTube!

I said, Grandpa, what's this picture here?  
It's all black and white, it ain't real clear

Is that you there? he said, Yeah, I was 11  
And times were tough back in '35

That's me & uncle Joe just tryin' to  
survive a cotton farm in Great Depression

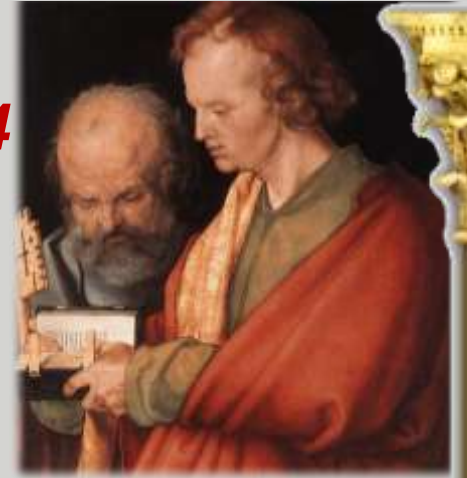
If it looks like we were scared to death  
Like a couple of kids  
just trying SAVE each other

You should've seen it  
in COLOR



LAST Week: Four Days that Woke the World *next day x4*

Right before Nicodemus comes to Jesus at night  
John 2:1 opens ... oddly ... *no one knows why*



1 On the **THIRD DAY** a wedding took place at  
**Cana in Galilee**

2-3 Jesus and his disciples had also been invited....

3 When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him,  
“They have **NO** more **WINE!**”

There are some weird & squirrely *written* claims that  
the “wine” was unfermented Grape Juice – **NOT TRUE!**

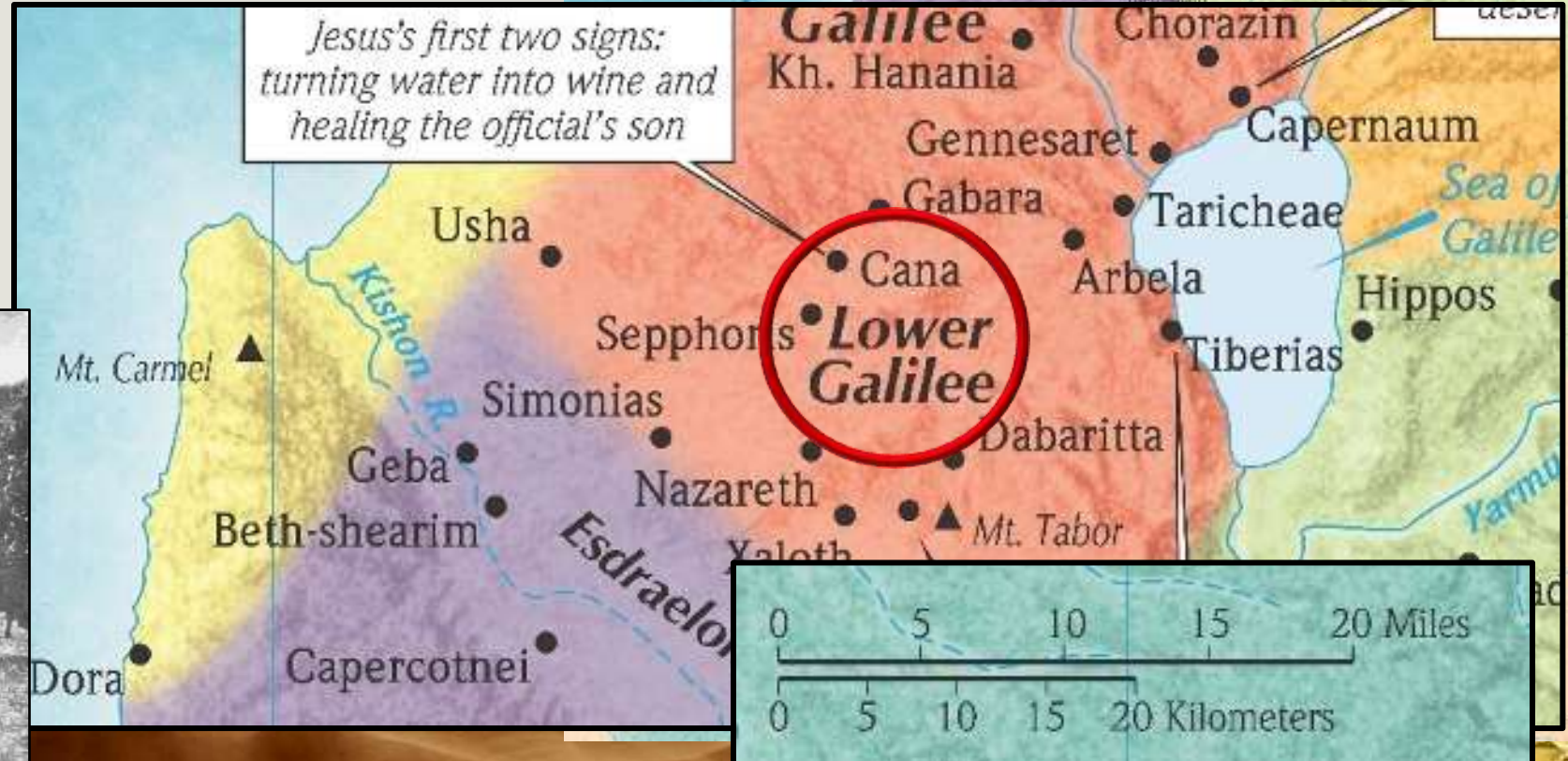


# Cana of Galilee

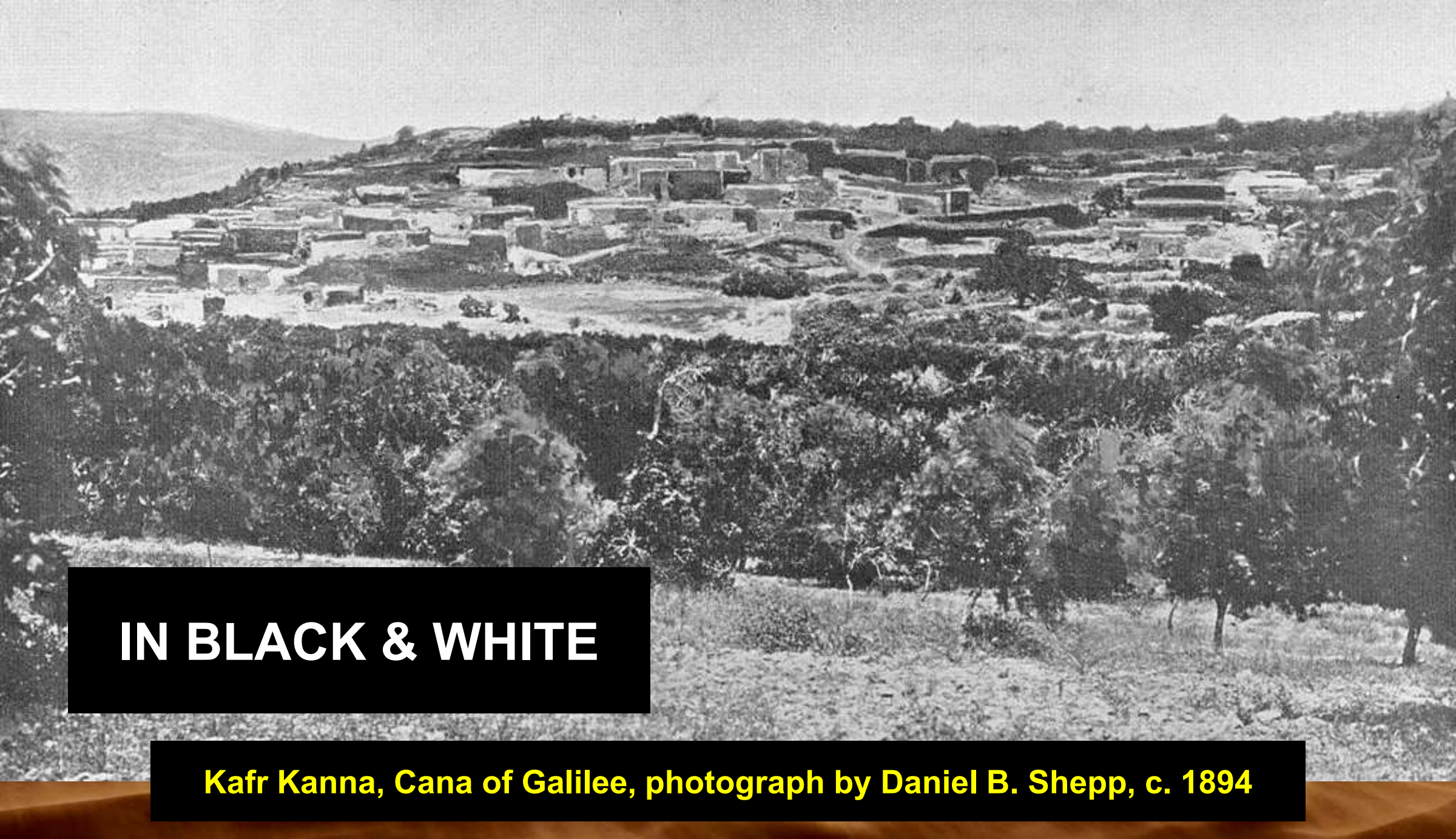
Remember, Nathaniel lived here  
*the man without guile, according to Jesus*

Cana *probably* means “Place of Reeds”

ONE of the  
possible places  
was prized for its  
Pomegranates







**IN BLACK & WHITE**

**Kafr Kanna, Cana of Galilee, photograph by Daniel B. Shepp, c. 1894**





**MASSIVE**  
**32 ½ Feet WIDE**  
**by 22 ¼ TALL**

**The Wedding Feast at Cana, c. 1562, by Paolo Veronese, in the Louvre**





**Benedictine monks commissioned Paolo Veronese to paint this on the back wall of the monastery's refectory at the San Giorgio Monastery, Venice.**

**The Wedding Feast at Cana, c. 1562, by Paolo Veronese, in the Louvre 22 ¼ by 32 ½ Feet**





**The Wedding Feast at Cana, c. 1562, by Paolo Veronese, in the Louvre 22 ¼ by 32 ½ Feet**



**John 2:3 When the wine was gone,  
Jesus' mother said, "They have no more wine."**

**4 "Woman, why do you involve me?"**

**Jesus replied. "My hour has not yet come."**

**5-10 Turns 6 20-gallon jars of water into WINE**

**Banquet Master chides Bridegroom ... you what?**

**"Saved the best till NOW."**

**NO question in my mind: Jesus AIDED the Celebration  
AIDED in such a way that INCREASED the guests Drinking**

**AIDED in the Drinking of the BEST WINE**





**Here's the Banquet Master  
telling the Bridegroom**

**The Wedding Feast at Cana, c. 1562, by Raphael**

**“YOU SAVED the BEST for LAST”**



**John 2:11 What Jesus did here in Cana was the  
First of the Signs  
through which he revealed his glory, and  
his disciples believed in him.**



**12 – Jesus, mother & disciples to Capernaum ... few days**

**13-15 Jesus goes to Jewish Passover in Jerusalem ...  
makes whip ... drives ALL from Temple Courts**

**16 To those who sold doves he said,**

**Get these OUT of HERE!**

**Stop turning my Father's house into a market!**



John 2:17-21 Jesus ... destroy temple ... raise in 3 days ...  
Jews could not ... took 46 years to build  
Jesus ... BODY ... confused





Then we see **HOW** John writes ... in c. A.D. 80

For his readers what **ALL** should know ...

22 After he was raised from the dead,  
his disciples recalled what he had said.  
Then they believed the scripture and Jesus' words.

23 ... in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival,  
many people saw the signs ... and believed....

Perhaps the **YOUNG** Apostle John was there, too ...

What part of city? .... **HOW** did Nicodemus **FIND** Jesus?

Everything about Nicodemus says he was like Nathaniel

**What IS VERY CLEAR ... Nicodemus is AFRAID**





Besides ... even Jesus was **CAREFUL** ...

John 2:24 But Jesus would NOT entrust himself to them, for he knew ALL people.

25 He did not need any testimony about mankind, for he knew what was in each person.

KJV “Ruler of Jews” ... NIV member of “Ruling Council”

Nicodemus ... gets all the Jewish CIA Reports on Jesus

However, like Nathaniel, he is an honest God-fearing Jew

Nicodemus REALLY wants to know the TRUTH ...

PLUS ... he REALLY Loves his people ... they trust HIM





Nicodemus comes at NIGHT because ...

Nicodemus does NOT want ALL to  
know his contacts *within* Jerusalem

LEADER of Jews, perhaps more than a ...

Pharisee or Sadducee ... someone of true esteem

Nicodemus KNOWS his fellow RULERS, too ... *some BAD*

John the Baptist & Jesus have Captivated the People

Their LIGHT shines ... especially Jesus—**THE LIGHT**

Nicodemus is an expert in the Law, too, KNOWS Prophecy

He's about to be Enlightened ... to the *Way*, the *Truth*, the *LIFE*





John 3:1-21 – Has Most Famous N.T. Verse, 3:16

1 Nicodemus of Jewish ruling council.

2 He came to Jesus at night and said,

“Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

**Nico/demus** = “Conqueror of People”

Yes, the origin of Nike



**Demus ... origin for “People” in Demo/cracy**  
**Demo/cracy ... means People/Rule**



Joseph of Arimathea,  
Nicodemus, Mary,  
Mary Magdalene,  
John c.1559  
by Tatian (1488–1576)



Nicodemus only appears 3x ... only in John

1. John 3 – Great Born Again ... Eternal Life
2. John 7:50-51 – Law demands one be heard
3. John 19:39-42 – Brings spices for Jesus' body

Nicodemus ... *leader of Jews*

Comes to Jesus at **NIGHT**

Nicodemus will NEVER forget

So much at stake ... his **LIFE**

His **Reputation** ... **HIS FAMILY**

**MUST BE VERY VERY CAREFUL**



Joseph of Arimathea, Nicodemus, Mary,  
Mary Magdalene, John c.1559  
by Tatian (1488–1576)





**REMEMBER – John  
writes in A.D. 80 ... 40  
years after events**

**We ASSUME the  
NIGHT was MUCH  
LONGER than John 3**

**John 3 would have  
SO MUCH an impact**

**Nicodemus would  
help BURY Jesus**

**Joseph of Arimathea, Nicodemus,  
Mary, Mary Magdalene, John c.1559  
by Tatian (1488–1576)**



Song by Jamey Johnson ... which got over 117 million views

Oh, and this one here's taken overseas  
in the middle of **HELL** in 1943  
in the wintertime

You can almost see my **BREATH**  
That was my tail gunner ol' Johnny Magee  
He was a High School teacher from New Orleans  
And he had my back right through the day we left  
If it looks like we were **SCARED TO DEATH**  
Like a couple of kids just  
trying **SAVE** each other

You should've seen it in **COLOR**





John 3 – Most Famous N.T. Passage

3 Jesus replied [*to Nicodemus*],

“Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

4 Nicodemus incredulous – mother’s womb *again*?

5-6 Jesus answered: born of water, born of spirit  
Flesh to flesh, but the “Spirit gives birth to spirit.”

8 Wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going.

So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”





**John 1:1-21 – Most Famous N.T. Passage**

**9-11 Jesus resorts to BABY talk ... we testify ...**

**I spoke of EARTHLY & you do not believe ...**

**how will you believe if I speak of heavenly things?**

**14 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness,**

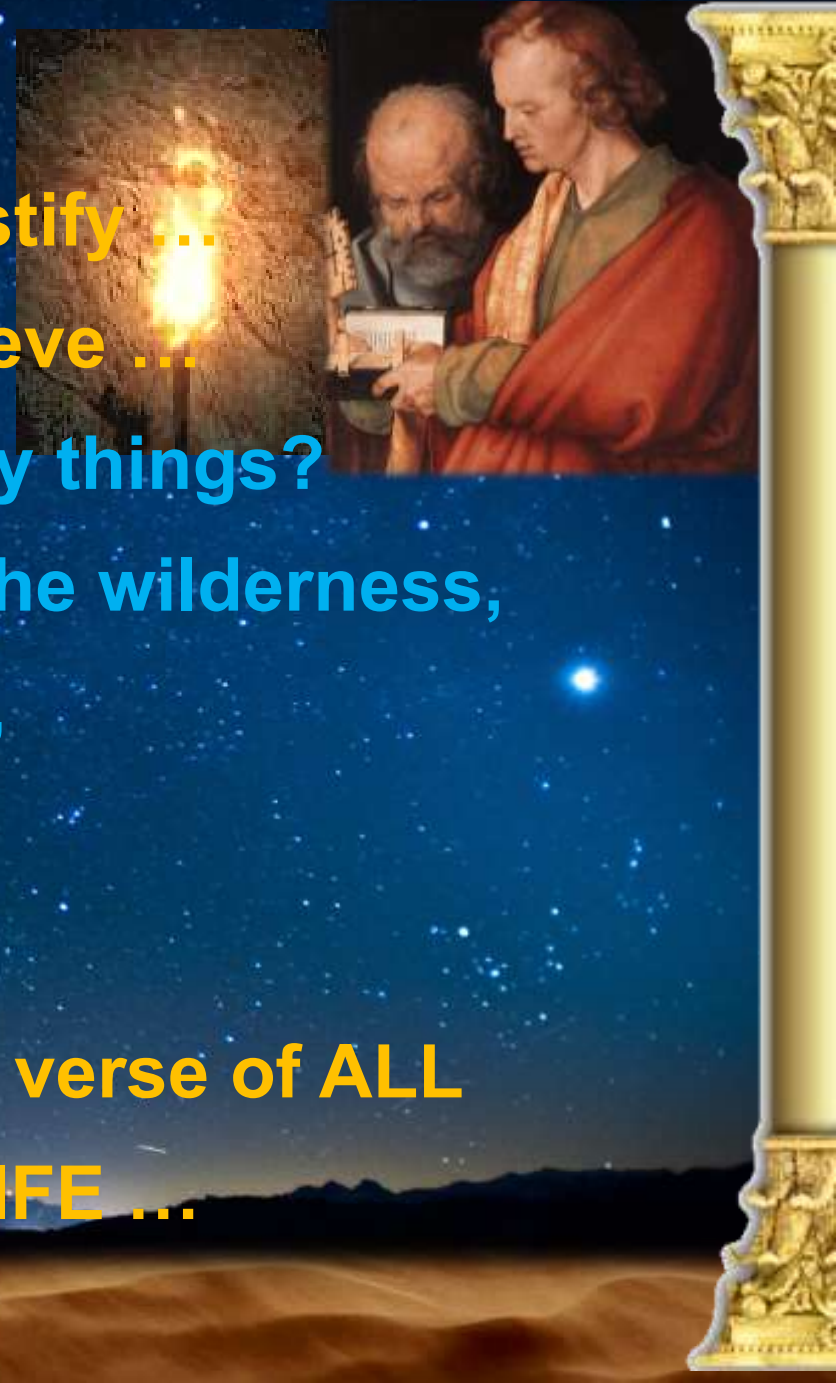
**so the Son of Man must be lifted up,**

**15 that everyone who believes may have**

**eternal life in him**

**Prepare yourself ... for that most famous verse of ALL**

**Verse that MARKS us & Nicodemus for LIFE ...**





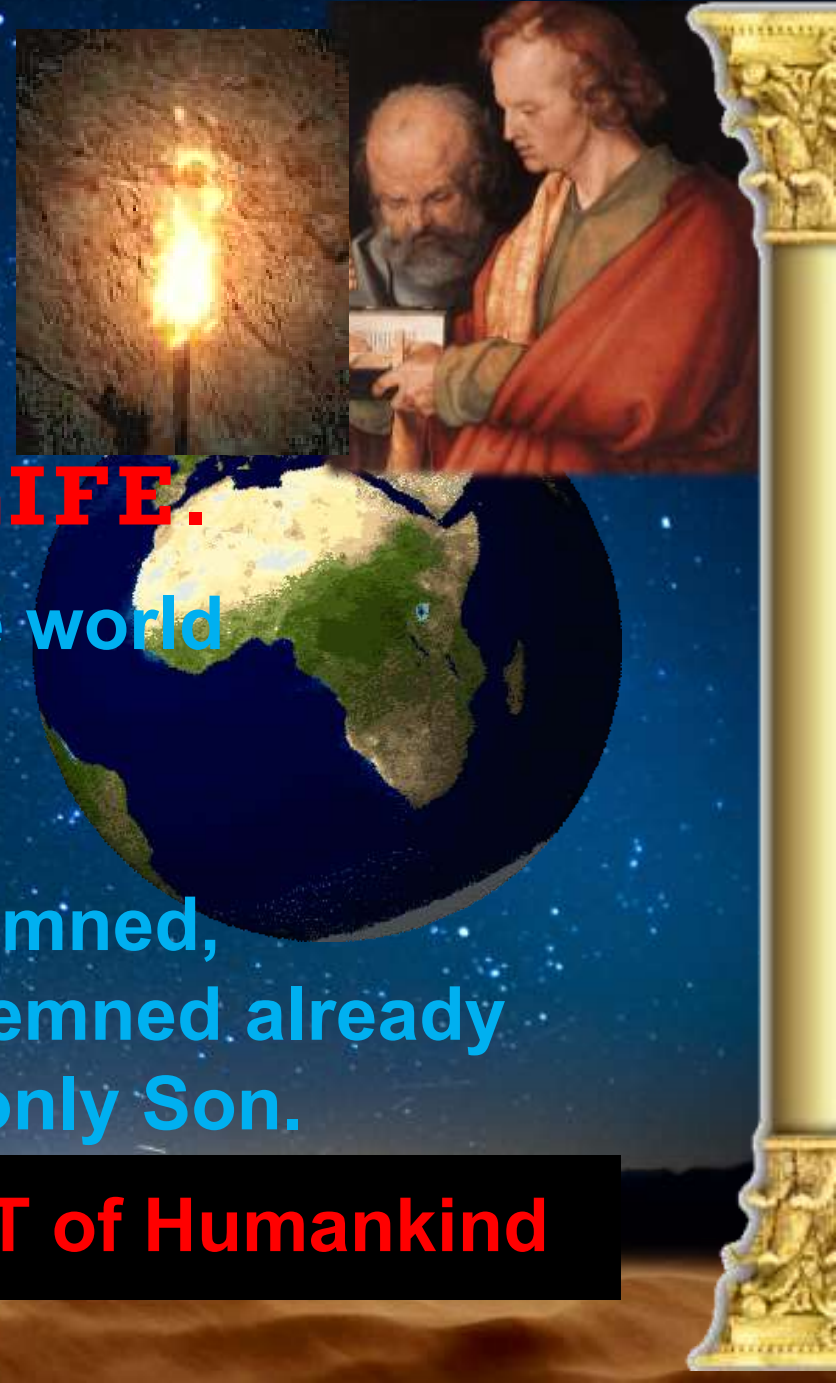
**John 3:16 – Most Famous N.T. Passage**

**16 For God so LOVED the world that he gave His One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have **ETERNAL LIFE**.**

**17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.**

**18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe ... condemned already because they have not believed in ... only Son.**

**Nicodemus is on pins & needles ... **LIGHT** of Humankind**





Song by Jamey Johnson ... which got over 117 million views.

**A picture's worth a  
thousand words  
But you can't see what those  
shades of gray keep covered  
You should've seen it  
in COLOR**



19 This is the verdict:

**Light** has come into the world,  
but people loved darkness instead of **LIGHT**  
because their deeds were evil.



20 Everyone who does evil hates the **LIGHT** ...

21 But whoever lives by the truth comes into the **Light**,  
so that it may be seen plainly that what they  
have done has been done in the sight of God.

Oh my ... Nicodemus & **EVERYONE** with him that **NIGHT**  
**SEE the LIGHT** – Unforgettably Monumentally Memorable



Song by Jamey Johnson ... which got over 117 million views.

This one is my favorite one  
This is ME and GRANDMA  
in the summer **SUN**

All dressed up the DAY we said our VOWS  
You can't tell it here  
but it was **HOT** that June

And that **ROSE** was **RED** and  
her **EYES** were **BLUE**  
And just look at that smile,  
I was so **PROUD**

That's the **STORY** of my **LIFE**

Right there in Black & White





**3:22-34 Jesus & disciples go into the Judean countryside ... John the Baptist baptizing ... disciples ask Jesus about John**

**John clarifies Jesus is “from above is above ALL”**



**35 The Father loves the Son and  
has placed EVERYTHING in His hands.**

**36 Whoever believes in the Son has Eternal Life,  
but whoever rejects the Son will not see life,  
for God's wrath remains on them.**

**Nicodemus & Apostle John carried that NIGHT with them  
John 3:16 ... ALL Christians have, too, for 2,000 Years  
Nicodemus' Monumentally Memorable Night ... is ours too**



Song by Jamey Johnson ... which got over 117 million views.

Yeah, a picture's worth a  
thousand words

But you can't see what those  
shades of gray keep covered

You should've seen it  
in **COLOR**



Jesus—One Only Son ... **LIGHT & LIFE** of Humankind

WHOSOEVER Believes ... has **ETERNAL LIFE**

*This Life, but a DREAM ...* **Heaven—in Color**