

Chapter 3

John

BIBLE

There came a man, sent from God, whose name was John.¹

He came and preached peace to you who were far off and to those who were near.² He was the burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light.³

The law and the prophets were until John. From that time the Good News of God's Kingdom is preached, and everyone is forcing his way into it.⁴

He said, "Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear."⁵ Don't think that I came to destroy the law or the prophets. I didn't come to destroy, but to fulfill.⁶ Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.⁷

"Stand firm therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and don't be entangled again with a yoke of bondage."⁸

COMMENTARY

¹ **John 1:6** [*John is the "first angel"*]

² **Ephesians 2:17** John was an advocate for peace. His song "Give Peace A Chance" was released in 1969, just before the Beatles broke up.

³ **John 5:35** We rejoiced for a while in John's light. His life was cut short by an assassin's bullet.

⁴ **Luke 16:16** Following rules ("the law") and listening to teachers ("the prophets") is a good place to start our spiritual journey. Our goal, however, is to go within and listen to our heart and learn how to follow our own guidance. The message of John and the Beatles is that God's Kingdom is within us. This is the good news.

⁵ **Mark 4:9** "Can you hear me?" John asks in "Rain"

⁶ **Matthew 5:17** The spiritual journey takes us from fear based obedience to love based choice.

⁷ **Romans 13:8** "Love is all you need," John reminds us in "All You Need Is Love."

⁸ **Galatians 5:1** "Christ" is our higher self, our Divine nature. Jesus was able to demonstrate and express his Divinity to such an extent that he became the Christ.

For you, brothers, were called for freedom. Only don't use your freedom for gain to the flesh, but through love be servants to one another.⁹

"Don't let your heart be troubled. Believe in God. Believe also in me.¹⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."¹¹

"Yahweh, your God, is among you, a mighty one who will save. He will rejoice over you with joy. He will calm you in his love. He will rejoice over you with singing."¹²

"Don't seek what you will eat or what you will drink; neither be anxious."¹³ For everyone who asks receives. He who seeks finds. To him who knocks it will be opened."¹⁴

As he spoke these things, many believed in him.¹⁵ The man grew great, and grew more and more until he became very great.¹⁶

⁹ **Galatians 5:13** John reminds us in "Come Together" that we are called for freedom: "One thing I can tell you is you've got to be free." But if we are using our freedom to serve the "flesh", we are aligning with our human, carnal self.

¹⁰ **John 14:1**

¹¹ **Matthew 11:30** "It's easy, all you need is love," John reminds us in "All You Need Is Love." When we give and receive love freely, we enter into a higher level of consciousness. We are truly in the flow and life gets easier.

¹² **Zephaniah 3:17** We are "saved" when we live life as a spiritual being, allowing the Divine to express itself through us.

¹³ **Luke 12:29** "There's nothing to get hungabout," John reassures us in "Strawberry Fields Forever."

¹⁴ **Matthew 7:8** "Everything has got to be just like you want it to," John encourages us in "Dig A Pony." When we are in alignment with our Source, the door is open for us, although we still have to ask, seek and knock; making our intentions clear, being persistent, listening for guidance, and taking action.

¹⁵ **John 8:30** John: "My role in society, or any artist's or poet's role, is to try and express what we all feel. Not to tell people how to feel. Not as a preacher, not as a leader, but as a reflection of us all."

¹⁶ **Genesis 26:13**