

John 3:1-21 **Nicodemus – Born Again – Purpose of Jesus Coming in the Flesh**

¹ There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ² This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him."

³ Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴ Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"

⁵ Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

⁷ Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' ⁸ "The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

⁹ Nicodemus answered and said to Him, "How can these things be?"

¹⁰ Jesus answered and said to him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and do not know these things? ¹¹ Most assuredly, I say to you, We speak what We know and testify what We have seen, and you do not receive Our witness. ¹² If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things?

¹³ No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. ¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

¹⁸ He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.

²¹ But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God." NKJV

Facts Revealed:

✚ Nicodemus along with Joseph of Arimathea were Pharisees and members of the Counsel.

[John 3:1, 7:45-52, 19:38-42, Matthew 27:57, Mark 15:43, Luke 23:50-51]

✧ Both of them as well as many other Rulers of the Jews had considered the evidence and were secretly believers in Jesus, but kept it secret because of their fear of the Pharisees and Jews in opposition to Jesus. [John 9:22, 12:42-43, 19:38-39]

✧ This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him." [John 3:2]

✚ Jesus went directly to the most important issue, "**Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**" "Most assuredly, I say to you, **unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.** [John 3:3-6]

✧ **Born of Water and the Spirit**

- ✧ The natural birth which includes water and blood can not be involved with the born again experience because it was the original process of birth of the flesh.
- ✧ Born of Water – Refers to Water Baptism depicting death and burial of the old man of sin, and birth of a New Creature in Christ Jesus, becoming a member of the Body of Christ, the answer of a clear conscience before God. [Romans 6:3-4, 1 Corinthians 12:13, 14-27, Galatians 3:26-27, Ephesians 4:1-6, Colossians 2:12-13, 1 Peter 3:21-22]
- ✧ Born of the Spirit – Refers to the Baptism of the Holy Spirit by which we are sealed for Redemption. [2 Corinthians 1:21-22, Ephesians 1:13, 4:30]
- ✧ Baptism by Water and the Holy Spirit result in the new Birth. [Matthew 3:11, 28:19, Mark 1:8, 16:16, Luke 3:16, John 1:33, Acts 1:5, 2:38, 8:14-17, 10:47-48, 11:15-16, 19:1-6]
- ✧ God is sovereign over form, and it is He Who makes the final call as to those who will be a part of the Kingdom of God. There are times when water baptism is not possible, and God is able to know if a person given the opportunity would obey or not. [Luke 23:39-43]

✧ Being born of the Spirit is God's doing, and men can not control it any more than they can control the winds. [John 3:7-8]

✚ Nicodemus answered and said to Him, "How can these things be?" [John 3:9]

✚ Jesus said. "Are you the teacher of Israel, and do not know these things?" [John 3:10]

✧ "Most assuredly, I say to you, We speak what We know and testify what We have seen, and you do not receive Our witness. **If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things?** [John 3:11-12]

✧ It is important for one holding a position of teaching things pertaining to God, to have understanding of God and His plan regarding mankind.

Explanation of God's plan of Salvation

✚ Jesus introduced His purpose in coming into the world in human flesh.

✧ No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. [John 3:13]

✧ Jesus, as God the Word, came down from Heaven and ascended to heaven numerous times in the history of the world prior to His taking on the body named Jesus.

✧ He was here in the Garden of Eden, at the tower of Babel, talking with Abraham, wrestling with Jacob, appearing to Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and seventy of the Elders of Israel, the parents of Samson, Gideon, etc. [Genesis 2:7, 19, 21-24, 3:8-19, 12:7, 17:1, 18:1-33, 26:1-2, 26:23-25, 35:1-7, 9, 48:3, Exodus 3:2, 16, 4:5, 6:3, 24:9-11, Judges 6:12, 13:3-21, 1 Samuel 3:21, 2 Samuel 24:15-17, 1 Kings 3:5, 9:2, 11:9, 2 Chronicles 1:7, 3:1, 7:12, Luke 1:11]

✧ Jesus' purpose was to die on the cross, so Salvation to eternal life might be granted to those who believe. [John 3:14-17]

✧ The serpent on the cross in the wilderness, was a picture of Jesus on the cross bearing the sins of the world in his body for the salvation of those who believe. [John 3:14, Numbers 21:8-9]

✧ God demonstrated His love for mankind by the Sacrifice of His Only Begotten Son Jesus on the cross of Calvary. [John 3:16-17, Romans 5:8-9, Titus 3:4-7, 1 John 4:9-10]

✚ He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. [John 3:18]

✧ The deciding factor for this grace is that of belief. [John 3:18, Matthew 18:6, 21:31-32, Mark 1:14-15, 9:42, 16:16, Luke 8:12-13, John 1:6-13, 3:14-18, 36, 5:24, 38, 6:29, 40, 47, 7:38-39, 8:24, 20:30-31, Acts 10:43, 13:38-

39, 13:48, 16:31, Romans 1:16, 3:21-24, 4:3-5, 10:4-13, 1 Corinthians 1:21, Galatians 3:22, Ephesians 1:13-14, 1 Timothy 1:16, Hebrews 10:39, 11:6, 1 John 5:1, 13]

- ✚ This is the **condemnation**, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. [John 3:19-20, 5:28-29, Jude 1:4]
 - ✚ Disbelief brings wrath and judgment. [John 3:18, Mark 16:16, 2 Thessalonians 2:11-12]
- ✚ But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God. [John 3:21]
 - ✚ By their fruits you shall know them. [Matthew 7:15-20, 12:33, Luke 6:44]