

John 3:1-21

Nicodemus

- The Context and Question
- Born of Water and the Spirit
- Jesus Must Be Lifted Up
- The Verdict

The Context and Question

- Nicodemus was a Pharisee and “ruler of the Jews.”
- Context
 - Old Testament points to Christ and the Kingdom
 - Genesis 12 – All nations blessed through the seed
 - Isaiah 9:6 – Government will rest on His shoulders
 - Daniel 2:44 – Kingdom will never be destroyed
 - Isaiah 11:6; 65:25 – There will be peace
 - Zechariah – The Christ will be Priest and King

*“...so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ the Son of God;
and that believing you may have life in His name.”*

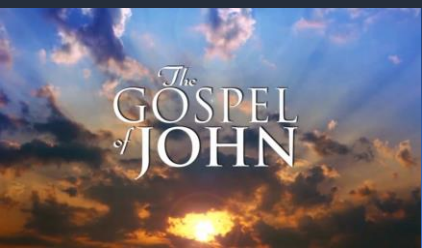
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The Context and Question

- Question
 - What is the question that is asked by Nicodemus?
 - What would a ruler of the Jews be looking for?
 - Did Nicodemus believe in Jesus?
 - Jesus challenges an incomplete/incorrect belief



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Born of Water and Spirit

- “You must be born again”
 - Jews considered being “in the kingdom” as a right conferred on them by being children of Abraham
- Water and Spirit – What should Nicodemus know?
 - Ezekiel 36:22-29
 - V.25 - sprinkle clean water on you
 - V.26 - new heart and new spirit
 - V.27 - My Spirit within you
 - Ezekiel 37: 1-14
 - V.5 – Cause breath (*ruach* – spirit) to enter you
 - V.14 – I will put My Spirit (*ruach*) within you

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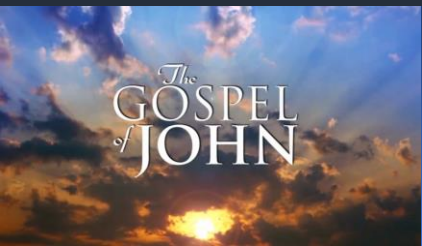
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Born of Water and Spirit

- Water and Spirit – What should we understand?
 - Spirit – what is the Spirit’s role in our salvation?
 - 1 Corinthians 2:10-13
 - Romans 10:17
 - Water and Spirit together
 - Mark 16:16 – Believes and is baptized
 - Eph. 5:25-26 – Washing of water with the word
 - Titus 3:5 – Washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit
 - Result: A New Creature - II Cor. 5:17; Gal. 6:15



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Jesus Must Be Lifted Up

- Moses lifting up the serpent – Numbers 21:5-9
 - Numbers 21:5-9
 - How does it correlate to what Jesus is saying?
- Jesus must be lifted up
 - Whoever believes will not perish, but have eternal life
 - How does belief result in salvation?

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The Verdict

- God did not send the Son to judge
 - The world was already condemned (v.18). Why?
 - Acts 17:30-31
 - What does this mean for the world?
 - We are not in a morally neutral world
 - We are not all “good people” that God is going to save
- The Verdict
 - Already rendered – guilty (Romans 3:23)
 - Men refuse to come to the light
 - Romans 8:1 “There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”
 - If we are doing what is right, we will come into the Light

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