

Nicodemus Comes to Jesus

John 3:1-21

“In contrast to the many in Jerusalem who “believed” but to whom Jesus refused to commit himself, Nicodemus looms as one to whom the Lord opened his heart, one who became a _____ disciple. At the same time the passage emphasizes an earlier theme – the limitations of current Judaism – by showing the inability of this leader to comprehend the spiritual truth enunciated by Jesus.” Wycliffe Bible Commentary p. 1077

Nicodemus the Man:

- Genuine and Sincere Heart:
 1. Motivation to come was the _____
 2. Nighttime visit –
 3. Pharisee/Ruler/Teacher of the Jew -Very Religious and Pious
 - A lifetime student of the _____
 - A teacher of _____
 - A ruler – Member of the Sanhedrin
- Limited Insight on the person of Jesus:
 1. Positive –
 2. Negative –
- Hints to Nicodemus’ purpose:
- Outcome of Interview:

I. Nicodemus in Control

“There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: ² The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles (Gk - _____) that thou doest, except God be with him.” John 3:1-2

“we know that thou art a teacher come from God:” –

Miracles = “God be with him.” –

II. Jesus in Control

“³Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again (Gk - _____), he cannot _____ the kingdom of God. ⁴Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? ⁵Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot _____ into 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 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye _____ be born again (Gk - _____). ⁸ The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is _____ of the Spirit.”
John 3:3-8

The Great Interruption! – Nicodemus’ purpose was **hijacked** by Jesus.

“born again”/ “born of the Spirit” –

“born of water and of the Spirit” –

The teacher is stumped by the Teacher -

Illustrations of Jesus:

“flesh is flesh” / “Spirit is spirit” –

“wind bloweth” -

**“⁹ Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be? (Lit. - _____)
¹⁰Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a (Gk - _____) master of Israel, and knowest not these things? ¹¹Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness. ¹² If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe _____, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things? ¹³And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven. ¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: ¹⁵ That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.”** John 3:9-15

Old Testament Principle of Change –

“We speak that we know, and testify that we have seen;” –

“earthly things, and ye believe not” –

“how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?” –

“he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.” –

“Moses lifted up the serpent...even so must the Son of man be lifted up:” –

“That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.” –

III. John’s Commentary on the Gospel?

“¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son (Lit. - _____), that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. ¹⁸ He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ For everyone that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. ²¹ But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.”
John 3:16-21

Are these words from Jesus’ lips or John’s pen? –

Main Components of these Verses:

“For God so loved the world,” –

“perish” “condemned” “condemnation” –

“everlasting life” “saved” –

“light” “darkness” –

evil deeds; doeth evil; -

“doeth truth” “wrought in God” –

Believer’s Application:

1. Have you come to the Light and believed?

- A _____ act

- A _____ and _____ to the work of God.

- A _____ time

- A _____ of change

- A _____ event

2. Are your “deeds wrought in God.?”