

NICK

at

NIGHT



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John 3:1-8

The meeting of Jesus and Nicodemus at night is one of the most famous and compelling stories in Scripture. This man's inner curiosity and spiritual thirst drove him to want to know more. What he heard puzzled and astonished him, but he heard from Jesus' own lips the only way to be saved. Jesus' words here divide all of humanity into two groups: those who are born again and those who are not.

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John 3:1-8

I. Spiritual Curiosity (vv. 1-2)

The Man Named Nicodemus –

Nicodemus was religious, rich, and he was a ruler

Religious - Pharisee - pledged to keep all of the law. Not just the first 5 books of the Bible, but the oral law as well; the Mishnah and the Talmud

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Rich - according to the Talmud one of four richest men in Jerusalem. Brought the myrrh and aloes when Jesus was buried.

Ruler - His name is Greek, means "victor over the people." Ruler, archon in Greek. He was "the" teacher in Israel. One of the most famous, sought after lecturers.

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The Meeting at Night

Could be a lot of reasons he came at night.

Fear

Sin

Probably for quality time with Jesus.

He came.

Nicodemus called Jesus, "Rabbi."

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John 3:1-8

Eternal Necessity (vv. 3-6) Unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom. Jesus answers the question that Nicodemus didn't ask. Jesus knew what was in man. "Most assuredly" is our clue that these are important word.

The Meaning of the New Birth

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New life, second chance.

Gennethe anothan -

Born from above

Born a second time

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To have new life, you need a new birth.

You are born spiritually dead. (Ephesians 2:1)

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The Method of the New Birth -born of water and
the spirit

Doesn't mean baptismal regeneration.

Nicodemus couldn't have understood New
Testament baptism.

Jesus didn't baptize anyone

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Spiritual cleansing- Old Testament description of being spiritually cleansed. Ezekiel 36.

Physical birth followed by Spiritual birth.

"Born of water" physical birth

"Born of the spirit" spiritual birth

First birth necessary for physical life

Second birth necessary for spiritual life

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John 3:1-8

Observable Activity (vv. 7-8)

The Wind Changes Places -can't see it, but the effects of it are plainly observable.

The Spirit Changes People - When a person is born again the changes are observable.

Pneuma is the word for wind and spirit. Same word.

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John 3:1-8

George Whitfield said he taught on this passage so much, because Jesus said you must be born again.

Jesus said you **MUST** be born again. He was saying this to a religious person. Status, religion and good works were not enough.

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John 3:1-8

Born once (physically) Die twice (physically
and spiritually)

Born twice (physically and spiritually) Die once
(physically)

Jesus doesn't reform you; He transforms you.

A suggested prayer to pray

Lord Jesus, I need You. Thank You for dying on the cross for my sins. I open the door of my life and receive You as my Savior and Lord. Thank

You for forgiving my sins and giving me Eternal life. Take control of the throne of my life. Make me the kind of person You want me to be

If you have sincerely prayed this prayer you have just been “born again”