

Series: Simply Jesus (9/23/18)

Title: The Necessity of the New Birth

Text: (John 3:1-11)

Born Again = Believer - Tooth-dentist-female=women

What New Birth IS NOT!

NOT Baptism: (Titus 3:5)

(Rev 1:5) washed in Blood (1 Jn1:7b)

(1 Pet 3:21) Figure-Picture (1 Pet 3:14-16)

Not Reformation: *Turning over a new leaf.*

(Jn 3:1,7) Nicodemus was Righteous via his works.

(Phil 3:4-11) Paul had this same righteousness & gladly forsook it for Jesus.

NOT Religious Experience:

(Matt 13:3,5,18,20-21)

Our Emotions are the Shallowest part of our being.

God does not do the deepest work in the Shallowest part of us.

Facts + Faith = Feelings
Acts 8:32 Acts 8:37 Acts 8:39

Discourse with Nicodemus. 3:1 - 21

A. (Vs 1) *There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.*

Educated, Wealthy, Politically Connected.

Not all of Christ's followers were ignorant & unlearned men.

1.) The Pharisaic religion was in direct contrast to Christianity, yet Christ was able to overcome even that barrier.

B. When He Came:

(Vs 2) *The same came to Jesus by night,..Why?*

1.) Act of Discretion: when Christ was not busy.

2.) Act of zeal and forwardness.

Came when Nicodemus was not busy: to obtain more knowledge & wisdom; many today won't go to church day or night because they are too tired, busy, or lazy!

3.) Afraid or Ashamed. A Secret Disciples.

Could cost Nicodemus his position of seen.

Regardless of why he came, Christ welcomed him.

Christ is never too busy to talk with us.

The important thing is that he came.

Nicodemus later confessed Him openly. (John 19:39)

C. Why He Came. (Vs 2) *and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God:*

1.) Not for political gain, but the destiny of his soul

a.) He calls Him Rabbi.

He knew Jesus was a great man, & shows respect.

"We know that thou art a teacher sent from God",
Jesus was not educated or ordained of men, but with Divine authority, as a teacher of light & truth.

b.) He based his Opinion on the Miracles:

*“No man can do these things except God be with Him
Miracles were Jesus’ credentials.*

B/c He is true, we are to accept Him as who He is.

*“Teacher/Master I want to know more about Miracles
Vs 3 - “If you want to know more about Miracles, You
are going to have become a Miracle.”*

D. What Jesus Told Him. (Vs 3-8)

1.) The necessity & nature of the new birth:
(Vs 3) Jesus answered and said unto him, *“Verily,
verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again,
he cannot see the kingdom of God.”*

It is not enough to admire His miracles/acknowledge
that God is with Him.

a.) What Is The New Birth?

To be born again from above;

We are corrupt by our first birth, shaped in iniquity,
We must have a new, second birth.

A Birth Takes 2 Parents

Birth is when Life is Imparted.

I have physical life from My Parents:

Robert & Pauline Mix

The New Birth is Imparting Life from Our Heavenly
Father. (Eph 2:1)(1 Pet 1:3) Begotten us.

A Birth Requires a Seed, A Womb, A Conception:

Womb: The Human Heart

Seed: The Word of God (James 1:18)

Conception: The Holy Spirit (1Pet 3:18)

b.) The absolute necessity.

“Except a man be born again...”

When you consider... Who God Is, What Heaven Is,
How we are sinful, corrupt creatures by nature,
It is a necessity that we be born again.
It is impossible to be happy in Heaven otherwise.

c.) The Objection of Nicodemus.

(Vs 4) *Nicodemus 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?*

Nicodemus has spent his life DOING!

Illus: Baby Books:

No books written for the Fetus on how to be born.

(1) He valued his first birth;

The Dignities, Pedigree, Privileges, & Place.

His heritage was the same as Paul's. (Phil 3:5)

Could he have a better birth than to born an Israelite?

I don't care who your daddy is, if you are not born again, you are going to hell. (John 1:13)
We have the surety of God's Word on it.

d.) Further explanation by Christ. (Vs 5-8)

He repeats Vs 3, same as before.

(Vs 5) *Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.*

What He says, He abides by.

The Truth has not changed, although men have tried to change it through perversions, etc.

Man's ignorance, mistakes, unbelief doesn't change it.

You try to get out of a traffic ticket by these!

(Rom 3:3) *"What if some didn't believe"?*

Doesn't change it.

Does not make the Word of God of none effect?

God is the author of this change, & what He says makes the difference.

e.) You must be born of the water and of the Spirit, water represents the Word of God.

You need the Word. Rom 10:17. (Vs 5)

Faith cometh by hearing & hearing by the Word of God.

The Spirit convicts of sin.

f.) This new birth is not brought about by any wisdom or power of man, but by the power and influence of the Holy Spirit.

Note: Those who are born again are made spiritual, refined as gold, the impurities have been taken away. The Pharisees based their religion on external purity and works. It would indeed be a change if they were made spiritual.

g.) The necessity of this change is because of what we are. (Vs 6)

We are flesh and we are so engrossed in making provisions for the flesh, so in love with the enjoyments of it, married to it, carnal, that we cannot have fellowship with God in such a condition. We must have the new birth.

(1) It is not by entering the second time into the mother's womb.

That which is born of flesh is flesh, clean cannot come from unclean.

Man was created a living soul, perfect, but he died spiritually by yielding to the desires of the flesh. He was no longer a living soul, but dead, inactive. He had a son in his image and likeness; this was also sinful flesh; he passed it on to everyone, therefore

our nature must be changed, no new leaf, coat, face; we are still the same underneath.

We must be born of the Spirit, have a new life, nature.
The wind bloweth where it listeth, it does not obey the commands of men; you can't see the wind, only the effects of it, so it is with the new man; you can't see the Spirit when He possesses a man, but you can see the effects of it.

If you can't see the effects of it, maybe he doesn't possess it.

h.) Nicodemus objects once again.
How can these things be. (Vs 9)

Note: The Word of God is foolish to the natural man, if you are not saved, you cannot understand it. If he can't understand it, he won't believe it.
"By wisdom they knew not God."

This is an illustration of having your mind made up. Christ can be our teacher as long as we can choose the subject. Don't talk about my sin.

Its OK to talk about smoking, drinking, cussing my cat, but don't talk about tithing, visiting, being faithful to all the services, etc.

i.) Christ reproves him again.

"Art thou a master of Israel, & knoweth not these things"

He was on the Sanhedrin~ 71
The Israel Supreme Court!

Israel is where the Divine revelation was.
There was an abundance of OT knowledge.

He could have learned this from the Scripture he had.
He spent much time in teaching ceremonies in religion, criticizing the Scripture.

Many today are the same way; this or that is wrong; now in the original, this version is easier to understand.

They want the deep things; instead of that which will lead to salvation.

The Latter End of Nicodemus.

John 7:50-53 He stood up for Jesus & was Ridiculed

(John 19:38-42) Nicodemus stepped up@Jesus Burial