



Grace Life Church

of Dallas

The doctrines of grace, the life of the Spirit, to the glory of God



Gospel of John

John 2:23-3:15

You Must Be Born Again

Part 1

All Bible Verses are in the ESV Version (unless noted)

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John 2:23-3:1-2

Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing. ²⁴ But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people ²⁵ and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.

Now 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.”

John 3:3-8

3 Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, 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, “Truly, truly, 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 its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

John 3:9-15

9 Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?”

10 Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? 11 Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. 12 If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things?”

13 No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. 14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

Review from v2:23-25

- Christian actions/terms/verbiage are sometimes applied to people who are not genuine Christians
“many believed in his name” v23
- *But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people...He himself knew what was in man*
- Jesus, knowing the heart of all, knew the faith of these people in v23 was not genuine, but merely outward affirmation and mental ascent
- V23-25 flow into chapter 3:1
 - *He himself knew what was in man. Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus*

John 3:1-15:

- Need for the new birth v1-3
- Definition of the new birth v4-5
- Cause of the new birth v6-8
- Means and end of the new birth v9-15

V1 Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.

- Pharisees: distinct, separate
- *V10 “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things?”*

V2 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.”

V3 Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

- *Truly, truly:* Repetition to point to importance
- *Unless....one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God*

–Luke 9:59-60 *To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, let me first go and bury my father.” 60And Jesus said to him, “Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.*