



# Jesus Encounters

**Week 5: Nicodemus - Truth Revealed: You must be born again  
John 3:1-6, 16**

**Worship Pastor Michael Greene - Reston Bible Church - Sunday, August 4th, 2024**



**Truth is Revealed when  
Encountering Jesus**



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



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



Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, **unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.** That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit...”



“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that **whoever believes in him** should not perish but have everlasting life.”

*John 3:1-6, 16 ESV*



# Who Is Nicodemus?



# Who Is Nicodemus?

a. Pharisee



# **Who Is Nicodemus?**

**a. Pharisee - Religiously Legalistic**



# Who Is Nicodemus?

- a. Pharisee - Religiously Legalistic
- b. Sanhedrin



# Who Is Nicodemus?

- a. Pharisee - Religiously Legalistic
- b. Sanhedrin - Legalistically Legalistic



# Who Is Nicodemus?

- a. Pharisee - Religiously Legalistic**
- b. Sanhedrin - Legalistically Legalistic**
- c. Came at Night**



# Who Is Nicodemus?

- a. Pharisee - Religiously Legalistic**
- b. Sanhedrin - Legalistically Legalistic**
- c. Came at Night - Afraid of the other Pharisees and Sanhedrin**



**You Must Be Born Again**



Here lay the earthly Remains of JOHN BERRIDGE  
late *Vicar of Everton* and an itinerant Servant  
of JESUS CHRIST who loved his Master and his Work  
and after running on his Errands many Years was called  
up to wait on him above Reader art thou born again  
No Salvation without a new Birth.

I was born in Sin Feb. 1716

Remained ignorant of my fallen State till 1730

Lived proudly on Faith & Works for Salvation till 1754

Admitted to Everton Vicarage 1755.

Fled to JESUS alone for Refuge 1756.

Fell asleep in Christ Jan<sup>y</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> 1793



**You Must Be Born Again**



Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit

*John 3:5-6 ESV*



# What is the Water and the Spirit



# **What is the Water and the Spirit**

**Spirit - The Holy Spirit dwelling in the life of  
the believer**



# **Reasons Why “Water” Does Not Refer to Baptism**

- 1. Jesus does not use the word “baptizo” (baptize), but “hudatos” (water)**



# **Reasons Why “Water” Does Not Refer to Baptism**

- 1. Jesus does not use the word “baptizo” (baptize), but “hudatos” (water)**
- 2. Salvation does not come through baptism**



**For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast”**

*Ephesians 2:8-9 ESV*



# **Reasons Why “Water” Does Not Refer to Baptism**

- 1. Jesus does not use the word “baptizo” (baptize), but “hudatos” (water)**
- 2. Salvation does not come through baptism**



I [God] will take you [Israelites] from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. **I will sprinkle clean water** on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and **from all your idols I will cleanse you.**



And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And **I will put my Spirit within you**, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

*Ezekiel 36:24-27*



# **What is the Water and the Spirit**

**Spirit - The Holy Spirit dwelling in the life of  
the believer**

**Water - The Spirit washing away the sin and  
idolatry in our spirit**



**Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor the idolators, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you.**



But you were **washed**, you were **sanctified**,  
you were **justified** in the name of the Lord  
**Jesus Christ** and by the **Spirit of our God**.

*1 Corinthians 6:9-11 ESV*



**A New Birth Leads**



**A New Identity**  
**A New Awareness**



# A New Identity



**But to all who did receive him [Jesus], who believed in his name, he gave the right to become **children of God**, who were born, not of blood nor of will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.**

*John 1:12-13 ESV*



# A New Awareness



And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And **I will put my Spirit within you**, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

*Ezekiel 36:24-27 ESV*



# How To Be Born Again

For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that **whoever would believe in him** should not perish but have everlasting life.

*John 3:16 ESV*



# How To Be Born Again

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that **whoever believes in him** may have eternal life.

*John 3:14-15 ESV*



# How To Be Born Again

For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be **saved through him**.

*John 3:17 ESV*



# How To Be Born Again

Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is **condemned already**, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

*John 3:18 ESV*



**I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.**

*John 14:6 ESV*



**You Must Be Born Again**



**When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being had been born into the world**

*John 16:21 ESV*



**You Must Be Born Again**