

YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN  
JOHN 3:1-10

TODAY WE JUMP INTO THE DEEP END OF THE APOSTLE JOHN'S GOSPEL. EVEN THOUGH THE ORIGINAL WRITINGS HAD NO CHAPTER BREAKS, CHAPTER 3 IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT CHAPTERS IN THE BIBLE. THE SETTING IS JERUSALEM DURING THE WEEKLONG PASSOVER CELEBRATION. JESUS HAS BEEN PERFORMING MIRACLES OR AS JOHN DESCRIBES "SIGNS" ALL WEEK, INCLUDING CLEANSING THE TEMPLE OF IT'S CORUPT BUSINESS DEALINGS. THE LOYAL SON HAD ZEALOUS ANGER FOR HIS FATHER'S HOUSE AND CLEARED IT OUT WITH A WHIP MADE OF ROPE. YES, JESUS WAS ANGRY, BUT HE DID NOT SIN IN HIS ANGER. HE IS OUR EXAMPLE, ALWAYS. JOHN DOES NOT LIST ALL THE MIRACLES JESUS PERFORMED BUT, WE CAN GATHER TOGETHER THAT INFORMATION BY LOOKING AT ALL OF THE MIRACLES THAT JESUS PERFORMED IN ALL OF THE GOSPELS. WE CAN CONCLUDE THAT HE HEALED THE SICK AND THE LAME, GAVE SIGHT TO THE BLIND, GAVE THE DEAF HEARING, AND SET THE DEMONICALLY OPRESSED AND POSESSED FREE. I WANT TO BACKTRACK A LITTLE TO START US OFF TODAY.

John 2:23-25 NIV

<sup>23</sup> Now while he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival, many people saw the signs he was performing and believed in his name. <sup>24</sup> But Jesus would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all people. <sup>25</sup> He did not need any testimony about mankind, for he knew what was in each person.

REMEMBER, NO CHAPTER BREAKS. JOHN STRATEGICALLY PLACES THE NEXT ACCOUNT TO DRIVE HOME A SPIRITUAL TRUTH. NOT ALL BELIEF IS BELIEF UNTO SALVATION, NOT ALL FAITH IS SAVING FAITH.

John 3:1-10 NIV

**3** Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

<sup>3</sup> Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

<sup>4</sup> “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

<sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. <sup>7</sup> You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ <sup>8</sup> The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

<sup>9</sup> “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

<sup>10</sup> “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things?”

I PRAY THIS TIME TOGETHER BRINGS REVELATION AND A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SALVATION IN CHRIST

John 3:1 NIV

**3** Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council.

NICODEMUS WAS PART OF THE SANHEDRIN, THE RELIGIOUS ELITE. RICH, POWERFUL, AND RULER OF THE JEWS

Matthew 23:27-28 NIV

<sup>27</sup> “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of the bones of the dead and everything unclean. <sup>28</sup> In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.

BUT HE IS SEEKING TRUTH, HE WANTS TO FILL THE VOID THAT RELIGION AND THE RICHES OF THE WORLD CAN'T FILL THE PEACE AND JOY OF BEING RIGHT WITH GOD IS PRICELESS

John 3:2 NIV

<sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

NICO COMES AT NIGHT EITHER FROM FEAR OF BEING SEEN OR HE WANTED A MEETING WITH JESUS WITHOUT THE CROWDS EITHER WAY, THIS IS SYMBOLIC OF THE NIGHT OF THE SOUL HE'S RESPECTFUL, “RABBI”. “WE KNOW”. THERE ARE OTHERS WHO BELIEVE HE IS FROM GOD BECAUSE OF THE MIRACLES

John 3:3 NIV

<sup>3</sup> Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

VERY TRULY/AMEN AMEN/IT IS AND SHALL BE SO  
AGAIN/ANOTHER/FROM ABOVE

JESUS IGNORES THE COMPLIMENT AND GOES RIGHT FOR HIS HEART. HE ADDRESSES NICO'S GREATEST NEED. NICO HAS SPENT HIS LIFE "DOING" TO GAIN RIGHTEOUSNESS INTO THE KINGDOM. JESUS IS TELLING HIM THE ONLY WAY IS TO "DIE"

THE GREATEST NEED FOR EVERY HUMAN IS THAT THEY BE BORN TWICE....BORN ONCE, DIE TWICE..BORN TWICE, DIE ONCE

Ezekiel 36:24-27 NIV

<sup>24</sup> "For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land. <sup>25</sup> I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. <sup>26</sup> I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. <sup>27</sup> And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

THERE WILL BE EVIDENCE IN THE LIFE OF A BORN-AGAIN BELIEVER.....NEW BIRTH, NEW LIFE OF BEHAVIOR

Matthew 7:13-14 NIV

<sup>13</sup> “Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. <sup>14</sup> But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

Matthew 18:1-3 NIV

**18** At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”

<sup>2</sup> He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. <sup>3</sup> And he said: “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

REGENERATION IS THE DISTINGUISHING MARK OF THE TRUE BELIEVER. BEING A CHRISTIAN IS MORE THAN MERELY SAYING YOU ARE ONE. THERE HAS TO BE A REAL CHANGE OF THE HEART WITHIN, A NEW BIRTH

John 3:4 NIV

<sup>4</sup> “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

NICO INTERPRETS JESUS’ WORDS LITERALLY

John 3:5 NIV

<sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit.

NO ONE CAN ENTER UNLESS THEY ARE REBORN OF  
WATER/SPIRITUAL CLEANSING  
SPIRIT/FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

THIS MEANS DEATH TO THE OLD YOU, NOTHING IS THE SAME

John 3:6-7 NIV

<sup>6</sup>Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. <sup>7</sup>You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.'

SIN NATURE GIVES BIRTH TO SIN NATURE, LIKE PRODUCES LIKE  
ONLY GOD CAN SAVE AND GIVE LIFE TO A SPIRITUALLY DEAD  
SOUL. NO ONE IS GOOD ENOUGH TO EARN THEIR WAY IN

“YOU” MUST BE BORN AGAIN IS PLURAL

John 3:8 NIV

<sup>8</sup>The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

JUST AS THE WIND CANNOT BE CONTROLLED OR UNDERSTOOD  
BY HUMANS, IT'S EFFECT CAN BE WITNESSED. SO IT IS WITH  
THE HOLY SPIRIT, HIS WORK IN A PERSON IS APPARENT  
UNDENIABLE AND UNMISTAKEABLE EVIDENCE

John 3:9-10 NIV

<sup>9</sup>“How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

<sup>10</sup> “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things?”

## KNOWLEDGE WITHOUT KNOWING GOD IS FUTILE

Romans 1:18-20 NIV

<sup>18</sup> The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, <sup>19</sup> since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. <sup>20</sup> For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

Romans 10:9-13

New International Version

<sup>9</sup> If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. <sup>11</sup> As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.” <sup>12</sup> For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, <sup>13</sup> for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

IF YOU ARE UNSURE OF YOUR SALVATION, CRY OUT TO GOD TODAY