BIRTHING SPIRITUAL BABIES AND CHURCHES

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

2 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. Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.



John 3:1-2

4 "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!



John 3:4

Lessons from Nicodemus



- Nicodemus was a member of the Sanhedrin, a senator, a privy-counsellor, and a man of authority in Jerusalem (the supreme Jewish legislative and judicial court in Jerusalem under Roman rule).
- God knows how to save the mighty in society- He needs them to reach their equals. John 7:50-51.
- He was a Teacher of the Law John 3:10, John 7:50-51.

Lessons from Nicodemus



- It is very possible to know the law and not Christ.
- It is very possible to be a teacher of the law, a leader and not yet regenerated like.
 Nicodemus.
- God was working on Nicodemus' heart. He went to seek the Lord at night against all odds.

Jesus taught Nicodemus how to be born again and lessons for us.



- It was not enough for Nicodemus to admire Christ's Miracle and Mission, but he must be born again. John 3:2-3.
- The intent of Christ in the word "Very truly I tell you," VS 3 and VS 5, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again. Christ is so serious about the new birth of a man.
- What Born again is and what it is not.

It is not a natural birth.

What Born Again



It is a rebirth from above.

John 1:12-13

"Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God" birth.

What Born Again



- Once you are good, obedient and keeping the laws, you are born again.
- Once you are coming to church and giving to God, you are born again.

 No one is good enough to be born again by their actions.

John 3:16 Your money cannot buy Salvation, Jesus Paid the price, so salvation is free.

Romans 5:8. NIV But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

1 Peter 1:18-19 For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

Acts 20:28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.

 You need to keep the law and stop all your bad characters before you are born again.

Isaiah 64:6 NIV

All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

What Born Again



 Faith in Christ Alone is what you need to be born again.

vs 14-16

"Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

•Romans 3:20 NIV

Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.

What Born Again



•Romans 10:9-10 NIV

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. 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.

Ephesians 2:8

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast"

 Once you confess your sins, you can just continue to live in Sin.

1 John 3:9-10 AMP

No one who is born of God practices sin, because God's seed remains in him; and he cannot habitually sin, because he is born of God and longs to please Him. By this the children of God and the children of the devil are clearly identified: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

What Born Again



 You are Saved to do good works but you are not saved by good works.

Ephesians 2:10

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

What does it mean to be born of Water and the Spirit?



JOHN 3: 5-8 NIV

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

6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

7 You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.'

8 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."



God is not interested in churches headcount of human number achievement without the regeneration of men's life.

ACTS 2:40-41

40 With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation."

41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.



ACTS 2:47 NIV

praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.



Now that you are born again, the Lord has equipped you with power and authority to birth other spiritual babies and churches for him.

Matt 28:16-20 NIV

16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go.

17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.



Now that you are born again, the Lord has equipped you with power and authority to birth other spiritual babies and churches for him.

Matt 28:16-20 NIV

19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.



Nicodemus was regenerated and one of the proofs was how he followed the Lord till his burial.

Conclusion

38 "Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jewish leaders. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away. 39 He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds. 40 Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs."



JOHN 19:38-40

Conclusion

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