

New Testament Church
The Book of John #5 – John 3:1-21 – You Must Be Born Again
January 31, 2026 - Pastor Paul Jehle

I The Gospel of John - Why expository preaching and why the Book of John at this time?

- A. Expository preaching brings depth, continuity and helps a congregation study together
 - 1. John reveals Christ as God – (eagle) - “behold your God” (Is. 40:9)
 - 2. The gospels reveal the “four faces” of Christ – king, servant, man, eagle
- B. John, author of John, 1st, 2nd, 3rd John and Revelation was a disciple of John the Baptist
 - 1. One of the sons of Zebedee (Salome his mother), a fisherman with Simon & Andrew
 - 2. ***John began as a critic but learned the balance of truth, grace and love...***
- C. We face a time right now when believers are called to be light in the midst of darkness
 - 1. We are called to be the stability in a time of chaos and increased hatred / violence
 - 2. The Gospel of John is a book that depicts *how to be light in the midst of darkness*
- D. The theme in John chapter 2 is how **divinity intersects with humanity**
 - 1. The heavenly kingdom intersected with the home at the wedding of Cana
 - 2. The cleansing of corruption in the Temple by Jesus – Zeal of My House – Psalm 69:9

II You must be Born Again – John 3:1-21 – Jesus and Nicodemus

- A. v. 1 – The man named **Nicodemus**, a ruler of the Jews, drawn to Jesus after the cleansing...
 - 1. He had heard or seen the miracles (signs – ‘milk-faith’) done by Jesus at the Passover
 - 2. A Pharisees and part of the Jerusalem Sanhedrin (the 70);
- B. v. 2 – Nicodemus came to Jesus by night – a common thing for Rabbi’s to do
 - 1. Rabbi *we* know you are a teacher come from God – he speaks for other Rabbi’s also
 - 2. No one can do what you do except God be with him – miracles draw people’s attention
- C. v. 3-8 – the **ultimate beginning point for cleansing is regeneration** (new life within)
 - 1. To be born ‘from above’ is the cause to “see” the Kingdom (rule) is the effect
 - 2. The natural man wants changes in the religious/cultural world, but not in themselves
 - a. Not a rebirth physically, but of water (cleansing) and the Spirit (regeneration)
 - b. That which is “born of the flesh is flesh” – natural begets the natural – generational
 - c. That which is “born of the Spirit is spirit” – it breaks the generational curse of sin
 - d. Our spirit is regenerated – breaking captivity to sin and death (1st Cor. 2:14)
 - e. You can see the effects of wind but it is *invisible* and the *source* is miraculous
- D. v. 9-15 – How can these things be? A teacher of Israel and you don’t know these things?
 - 1. Consider what Jesus may have referred to in the OT that Nicodemus should have known
 - a. Jeremiah 31:31-34 declares a new covenant of *the heart and mind*
 - b. Ezekiel 36:25-27 declares a spiritual cleansing of *water*, and a *new heart and spirit*
 - 2. I tell you earthly things, how will you believe heavenly? (**natural leads to spiritual**)
 - 3. Consider Moses and the Serpent in the Wilderness – Numbers 21:4-9
 - a. Sin’s solution is to put it’s **substitute on a cross** – believe in God’s provision!
 - b. 2nd Corinthians 5:21 He who knew no sin became sin for us – propitiation (substitute)
 - 5. Whoever believes in Jesus as our substitute shall not perish but live *eternally with Him*
- D. v. 16-21 – The purpose of God in sending Jesus into the world is to be co-laborers
 - 1. God so loved the world (kosmos – orderly arrangement) – Ps. 24:1 – people and fulness
 - 2. Belief (faith) in Jesus delivers you from condemnation (a life in hell) – loving darkness
 - 3. We learn to discern truth from evil by a willingness to have our godly deeds exposed.