

“Look and live”

John 3:1-18

- Purpose of John’s gospel – “...that you may believe that Jesus is the Son of God and that believing you may have life in His name...” [John 20:30-31]

1. Nicodemus, the Pharisee, comes to Jesus at night. [3:1-2]

- *Nicodemus is a high-ranking Pharisee – for him, keeping the law leads to salvation.*
- *We are not told why he comes to see Jesus – but he is definitely intrigued.*

2. Jesus gets right to the point. [3:3]

- *“Nicodemus, your heart really longs for God’s Kingdom.”*
- *“But the only way to enter His Kingdom is to be reborn from above.”*

3. Nicodemus says, “What are you talking about?” – Jesus says, “Listen and learn.” [3:4-12]

- *“There must be a spiritual rebirth because flesh can only give birth to flesh. “*
- *“Don’t freak out – it’s a mystery – but so is the wind.”*
- *“It will help you if you trust in My authority.”*

4. Jesus says, “Nicodemus – let me show you how to be born from above!” [3:13-18]

- *“Like the serpent in the wilderness, I will be lifted up to save the world.”*
- *“Whoever believes in Me [looks at Me for deliverance] will be born from above.”*

“In one sentence, Jesus sweeps away all that Nicodemus stood for, and demands that he be re-made by the power of God.” [Leon Morris, NICNT]