

## **We Must Be Born Again!**

### **S.R. Joh.3:1-15**

The scripture and the words spoken by Jesus tell us all that no one shall see the kingdom of God unless we are 'born again'! What does it mean?

Nicodemus – Pharisee (sect), ruler and probably wealthy.

Kingdom – People & territory ruled by a king.

Kingdom of God – Mar.1:15 Kingdom of heaven – Mat.3:2

(In this context I believe Jesus is talking about the church – Mat.16:8-9)

#### **(V1-2) You Are From God.**

Nicodemus had probably witnessed the temple cleansing & the miracles. Joh.2:12-23

He also may have heard the preaching of John the Baptist about the coming Messiah.

Joh.1:33-34

#### **(V3) Must be born again.**

Jesus seemed to know what was on his mind. An example of divine insight. (1:48)

He also expressed the statement as an unchangeable condition!

#### **(V4) Old reborn?**

He used human logic & man's reasoning. He knew that physical rebirth was impossible. His spiritual perception was poor, though his heart was genuine.

#### **(V5-8) Unless Born of water & spirit, no kingdom!**

*Two conditions; 1. Water and 2. Spirit. Joel 2:28-32 \*\**

(John had introduced baptism and Jesus would bring the Holy Spirit. Joh.7:37-39 & 16:7-15)

Being born physically would no longer have any meaning (Jew), only the spiritual.

#### **(V9-10) Teacher & do not understand!**

How can this be? I am a Jew! Surely, God has promised to restore the kingdom to us?

The sad truth now immerses. His Pharisaic background & influence had prevented him from seeing the spiritual message of the O.T. Jer.31:31-33 \*\*

#### **(V11-14) Earthly Vs. Heavenly.**

Jesus spoke from God /as God, hence it was personal knowledge! They (Pharisees) had rejected Jesus very early, because they judged Him as dangerous to them!

Joh.7:48-53, Mat.26:3-5

Son of Man lifted up. The WAY into the kingdom – through Jesus! No other way!

His birth, death & resurrection should cause us to believe in Him and be saved!

Mar.16:16, Joh.14:6, Act.2:14-21 & 2:37-39, Rom.6:4, Eph.1:13-14

### **Conclusion**

To be 'born again' is to become a Christian by repenting of our sins, then immersion in water (in obedience to the gospel call) for the forgiveness of our sins, at which time we receive the 'gift of the Holy Spirit'.

## **Baptism saves us!**