

“Jesus and Nicodemus”

John #6

John 3:1-21

November 5, 2017

Scripture Reading: John 3:1-21

Introduction

- 3D Posters: **Autostereogram**. If you can't see it, you can't see it!
- What if there was a way to see the world from God's perspective?

Big Idea: If you want to truly see God, the world, yourself, or anything, you need a new, spiritual birth.

I. Midnight Meeting | 1-3

- Born again — The word for “again” is “*anōthen*.” Also means “above” or “top”
- Reminds us of John 1:12-13

Source of New Birth | vs. 4-8

- You need a new birth that only comes from the Holy Spirit
 - Wind = spirit (pneuma) | Context determines translation
 - D.A. Carson — The point is that the wind can be neither controlled nor understood by human beings (remembering of course that this was written before modern meteorology alleviated at least some of our lack of understanding). But that does not mean we cannot detect the wind's effects. We hear its sound, watch the swaying grasses, see the clouds scudding by, hide in fear before the worst wind storms. So it is with the Spirit. We can neither control him nor understand him. But that does not mean we cannot witness his effects. Where the Spirit works, the effects are undeniable and unmistakable.
- Spiritual rebirth prophesied | Ezekiel 35:25-27

More Confusion | vs. 9-13

Motive Behind the New Birth | vs. 14-18

1. Motivation is God's love, leads to an offer of forgiveness
2. Love *in this way* | “So” of degree, vs. “so” of specificity
3. Moses & serpent | Numbers 21
4. Christ, our serpent | 2 Corinthians 5:21

Results of the New Birth | vs. 19-21

- Deeds in the dark vs. deeds in the light
- Scott Swain — The Christian life begins with regeneration. When the Spirit brings the gospel effectually to bear upon the sinner's heart, he...implants a new principle of life.

This new principle of life enables a new vision...This new principle of life not only enables new vision, it also issues forth in new desires, new thirsts, and new hungers.

Conclusion

1. Non-Christian
 - a. Andreas Köstenberger — To this day, people do not sufficiently recognize their need for regeneration; often they think what God expects of them is a good, moral life. But this neglect of the biblical teaching that spiritual regeneration is necessary...will prove fatal if not remedied. For what applies to Nicodemus applies to every person: “You must be born again/from above.”
2. To Christians
 - a. Do you live in daily awe and thanksgiving?
 - b. Are you living in the light, looking through God’s perspective?

The Lord’s Table

John 6:53-57 — ⁵³ So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. ⁵⁵ For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶ Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. ⁵⁷ As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me.

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14 — The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.