

## Episode #1-15 - Born Again

I. The purpose of the gospel of John is to produce believers in the fact that Jesus is the Christ, the One anointed by God to be the Savior of the world, and that Jesus is the Son of God, God represented in human form.

II. Last time, we discussed “seeing the kingdom of God,” as the Lord said that you must be “born again” in order to do this. Now, we will consider what other lessons we can learn from the interesting story of Nicodemus, the Sanhedrin ruler who came to the Lord by night.

- A. Verse 1. Ruler of the Jews=member of Sanhedrin or national council.
- B. Verse 2. A ruler was busy. Cool of night on housetop good time, place to meet
- C. The Sanhedrin had this knowledge. This made their rejection all the worse!

III. Born How? Verse 3.

- A. A premiere passage used by people regarding salvation. How, when Christ has not even died on the cross yet, could He be talking about that here? II Corinthians 5:17.
- B. “Born again.” A good translation?
- C. Born = *gennaō*, “to be generated.” Related to *genea*, “generation.”
- D. Again = *anōthen*. Does this mean “again?”
  - 1. John 3:31. From above = *anōthen*. Cannot mean “again.”
  - 2. The Greek for “again” is *palin*. The Lord could have used this.
  - 3. *Anōthen* translated with idea of above every time except with “born.”
  - 4. Galatians 4:9 is *palin anōthen*, only *palin* is translated.
  - 5. Modern Greek? Not reliable, as the language has changed.
  - 6. Why do all versions translate “again”? Like Mercator projection.
  - 7. King James translators probably wanted to support infant baptism!
- E. See = *eido*, means to see and perceive. Same word as “know” in verse 2!
- F. Meaning: the knowledge they had of Christ was an important truth regarding the kingdom of God. You cannot know truth about the kingdom unless generated from above. These men were under great responsibility!
- G. “Generated from above” is something that has to happen BEFORE we are saved. It is not another name for salvation. I John 3:9 and I John 5:18.

IV. Conclusion. One must be generated by God, through the Word and the Spirit, before one can see the truth and believe to be saved. Only God can give this knowledge. If He has given you this knowledge, you are under great responsibility!