

Episode 1-16 - The Water and the Wind

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 “born again,” which we saw in Greek is actually “born from above,” and refers to what God does in order to generate an understanding of truth in us so that we might believe. 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.

III. Verse 4. Nicodemus misunderstands (purposely?) Thinks about being born.

IV. Verses 5-8. The Lord’s answer

A. Entering the kingdom of God (not just perceiving it.)

B. Born of water and the Spirit. And = Greek kai, often used appositionally, means “even.” I Cor. 15:24. “Water even spirit” = water IS Spirit. John 4:10 = living water.

C. Verse 6. Genesis 1:24-25. The knowledge they had was spirit, from Spirit.

D. Verse 7. Nicodemus should not be surprised. In OT God gives knowledge.

E. Verse 8. The knowledge the Spirit gives is like wind. Where from? Cannot see

1. Spirit = pneuma, Hebrew ruach (Matt. 12:18 + Is. 42:1, interchange.)

2. Ruach used for “wind.” Ps. 55:8, Ez. 1:4. Greeks had a separate word. Christ uses it in the Hebrew way.

V. Verse 9. Nicodemus still does not get it.

VI. Verses 10-12. The Lord’s reply.

A. The Lord chides him. Should have learned these things from the Old Testament.

B. Verse 11. The Lord and the Spirit both testifying. Christ makes Himself equal to the Spirit, thus to God. Remember the purpose of this book!

C. Verse 12. Earthly = epigeios, heavenly = epouranios. Epi accelerates, super.

VII. 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.