Born & Reborn: What Is My Part?

(John 3:18-21,36)

REVIEW of JOHN 3:1-8 - Born & Reborn: What's Required to Enter God's Kingdom?

1. Jesus Goes Straight to the KEY Point

- No one is qualified for God's kingdom
- You cannot get there the way you are
- One has to be born AGAIN, to see God's kingdom. ("re-birthed")

2. Nicodemus: It Doesn't Compute

Nicodemus is not arguing. He's trying to make sense of what Jesus just said. It makes NO sense. He knows about birth, and there are some obvious unsolvable problems:

- How do you solve the AGE problem?
- How do you solve the TECHNICAL problem?

3. Jesus: There Are TWO Births

TWO BIRTHS IDENTIFIED (water birth & spirit birth)

TWO BIRTHS REQUIRED (you have a physical birth, but need a spiritual birth too)

TWO BIRTHS EXPLAINED (water = flesh birth; spirit = spiritual birth)

NATURE OF THE SECOND BIRTH (it is something you experience, but you don't control)

Have YOU been born twice?

Have YOU been RE-born? RE-birthed? Born a SECOND time?

Review of JOHN 3:9-17 - Born & Reborn: You Should Know, But Let Me Explain

Religion Can Blind Us Rather Than Help Us (3:9)

Practicing religion does not guarantee that you are following the truth.

- 2. We All Have Access to the Truth (3:10)
 - Creation (Ps 19:1-3; Rom 1:18-21)
 - Conscience (Rom 2:12-16; cp. Titus 1:15)
 - Scripture (Rom 3:12-26)
- 3. We Are to Speak and Bear Witness of the Truth (3:11)
- 4. We Are To Receive the Truth by Believing It (3:12)

Nicodemus was struggling with the basic truths that Jesus was explaining.

5. We Can Trust Jesus As the Most Qualified Truth Relayer (3:13)

He is God the Son, and sent directly from heaven! (John 1:14)

6. "For Example," an OT Illustration of the Second Birth (3:14)

God's solution to man's sin & its result. – Numbers 21:4-9 – Sin → Penalty → Rescue

- 7. The Trigger of the Second Birth
 - Jesus' Part: Becoming the sacrifice (John 12:32-33)
 - Our Part: Believing on the Sacrifice [Which Births One a Second Time]
- 8. Here's a Quick Summary of the Second Birth
 - · God took action
 - God cared for the world
 - God gave His only begotten Son
 - o In order that each who believes
 - Might not perish
 - o But have eternal life

9. Here's God's Clear Purpose in Sending Jesus

- God sent Jesus into the world
- Not to judge the world
- But to save the world
- Through Jesus

What have **you**done with Jesus?

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Born & Reborn: What Is My Part? (John 3:18-21,36)

3:1-8: You Can't Get There the Way You Are (You Need a Second Birth, a Spiritual Birth) 3:9-17: God Has Provided the Way for You to Be Born Spiritually (He Gave His Son)

1. What Is My Part? (Reviewed & Clarified) – 18 YOU ARE IN ONE OF TWO GROUPS:

- GROUP #1: You Are Believing on Jesus = Not Condemned
- GROUP #2: Not <u>Believing</u> on Jesus = <u>Already</u> Condemned

Why? He Has Not Believed on Jesus

NOTE: The issue is not "election" or "sin" but unbelief.

Not "Do" (Nicodemus 3:1-8) But Believing on What Has Been Done

2. Why are people NOT born a second time? – 19

- Why wouldn't everyone believe then?
- This is the condemnation...
- People say "no" to what God says
- Because they like not being shown that their works are evil
- They reject the "Sin Problem" ...

NOTE: Not election, but rejection and rebellion.

3. How to Analyze Where You Are - 20-21

IF YOUR LIFESTYLE Is Focused on

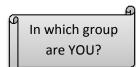
- A. Doing What God Says Is Wrong (practicing worthless, evil things):
 - You hate the Light, God's Word
 - You avoid the Light, God's Word
 - o You don't like to read the Word
 - You don't like to hear the Word taught
 - You stay away from anything that exposes you to the light of God's Word

Why? Because you don't like being told or shown the evil nature of your works.

- B. Doing What God Says (doing the truth)
 - You come to the light, God's Word
 - In order for God to reveal your works

4. Summary (Two Groups)

- Believing on the Son → HAS eternal life
- Not believing →
 - Will not SEE life (v.3 = see the kingdom)
 - Has the wrath of God remaining on him.



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