

JESUS' CONVERSATION WITH NICODEMUS
(John 2:23 – 3:15)

- I. Nicodemus' CHALLENGE (John 2:13-25)
 - A. Jesus' POSSESSION of the TEMPLE (2:13-22)
 - B. Jesus' MIRACULOUS SIGNS (2:23-25)
 - 1. Validating His AUTHORITY
 - 2. Producing SUPERFICIAL FAITH
 - 3. Provoking further INQUIRY
 - C. Sanhedrin's responsibility to INVESTIGATE
- II. Nicodemus' COMING (John 3:1-2)
 - A. He was a MEMBER of the Sanhedrin
 - B. He's identified as a PHARISEE
 - C. He approached Jesus AT NIGHT
 - 1. Jesus would be more ACCESSIBLE
 - 2. Interview would be more PRIVATE
 - D. He spoke to Jesus with RESPECT
 - 1. Addressed Him as an EQUAL
 - 2. Identified Him as having COME FROM GOD
- III. Nicodemus' CONFUSION (John 3:3-15)
 - A. Jesus said that to SEE the kingdom, one MUST be BORN AGAIN

1. This invalidates all HUMAN EFFORT for salvation
 2. This CRUSHED Nicodemus' expectation
- B. Nicodemus wondered how a man could START OVER when he's OLD
1. It cannot be accomplished by HUMAN EFFORT
 2. It has to be accomplished by the HOLY SPIRIT
 3. It is BESTOWED according to the Spirit's WILL
 4. Its EFFECTS are VISIBLE
- C. Nicodemus asks "HOW can these things BE?"
- D. Jesus patiently REBUKES his lack of COMPREHENSION
- E. Jesus affirms His own DIRECT KNOWLEDGE
1. He has DESCENDED from HEAVEN
 2. He is the SON of MAN (Daniel 7:13-14)
 3. He offers ETERNAL LIFE to WHOEVER BELIEVES (cf. 1:12-13)