

He Who Comes From Above

JOHN 3 • LESSON 5

John 3 begins by telling us about an important man who wanted to talk with Jesus.

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named _____, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come _____ God...” (3:1-2)

That’s an incredible thing to say. Why did Nicodemus believe it?

“...for no one can do these _____ that you do unless God is _____ him.” (3:2)

And how did Jesus respond?

“Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is _____ he cannot see the kingdom of God.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of _____ and the _____, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. (3:3-5)



The conversation continued as Jesus spoke not only of “earthly things,” but also of “heavenly things.” But why would Jesus from Nazareth have any right to speak of or any insight into “heavenly things”?

“No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended _____ heaven, the _____ of Man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal _____.” (3:13-15)

After this conversation with Nicodemus, Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside. John the Baptist was baptizing people not far from where Jesus was, and at one point, some of John’s disciples expressed concern that “all” were going to Jesus. Listen to John’s humble response:

“A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him _____ heaven. You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, ‘I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.’ The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom’s voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. He must _____, but I must _____.” (3:27-30)

Why? Because Jesus is “he who comes from above” (3:31) and “he who comes from above is above all.” Above *all*? Including me and you? How carefully must we listen to the One who comes from above?

The Father loves the Son and has given _____ things into his hand. Whoever _____ in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not _____ the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him. (3:35-36)

John 3 has given us a lot to talk about it. Let’s dig in together...

For Class & Family Discussion:

- What did Nicodemus believe about Jesus before he even came to him by night? Why did Nicodemus believe what he did?

- In [John 3:3](#) and [3:5](#), Jesus made an important statement, but it might be a little confusing. What did he mean when he said, “Unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God,” and “Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God”?

- In [John 3:14-15](#), Jesus referenced a famous Old Testament account of Moses lifting up “the serpent in the wilderness.” Where can we read about that event and what does it have to do with Jesus’ statement that “the Son of Man” must “be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life”?

- In your own words, what is [John 3:17](#) communicating?

- [John 3:26](#) is where we heard some of John’s disciples expressing concern that “all” were going to Jesus. How *could* John have responded? If he didn’t have the right attitude, he might have said...

- Instead, we heard a very humble response from John: “He must increase, but I must decrease” ([3:30](#)). What did he mean by that? Is there anything we can learn from that attitude? Do we need to have the same attitude?

- In [John 3:31](#), Jesus is referred to “He who comes from above.” What does that mean? Why does it matter?

- We’ve heard a couple times today about believing in Jesus in order to have “eternal life.” In simplest terms, what do you and I need to believe about Jesus?