



YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN

JOHN 3:1-10

Nicodemus' three appearances;

JOHN 7:50-52

⁵⁰ Nicodemus, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, ⁵¹ "Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" ⁵² They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and see that no prophet arises from Galilee."

JOHN 19:39

³⁹ Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight.

'By night';

JOHN 9:4

⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; *night is coming*, when no one can work.

JOHN 11:10

¹⁰ But if anyone *walks in the night*, he stumbles, because the light is not in him."

JOHN 13:30

³⁰ So, after receiving the morsel of bread, he immediately went out. *And it was night.*

The "faith" of Nicodemus;

MATTHEW 12:24

²⁴ But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, "It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this man casts out demons."

New birth: a central theme for John;

1 JOHN 2:29

²⁹ If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been *born of him*.

1 JOHN 3:9

⁹ No one *born of God* makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been *born of God*.

1 JOHN 4:7

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been *born of God* and knows God.

1 JOHN 5:1

¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been *born of God*, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been *born of him*.

1 JOHN 5:4

⁴ For everyone who has been *born of God* overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

1 JOHN 5:18

¹⁸ We know that everyone who has been *born of God* does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him.

The necessity of the new birth;

JOB 14:4

⁴ Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? There is not one.

PSALM 51:5

⁵ Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

ROMANS 5:19

¹⁹ *For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.*

—Born of Water and Spirit—

The Scriptures taught that the people of God should expect to be begotten by the Father;

EXODUS 4:22

²² Then you shall say to Pharaoh, *“Thus says the LORD, Israel is my firstborn son.*

DEUTERONOMY 32:6

⁶ Do you thus repay the LORD, you foolish and senseless people? *Is not he your father, who created you, who made you and established you?*

HOSEA 11:1

¹ When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt *I called my son.*

The Scriptures taught that the Spirit of God was a life-giving Spirit, and the people of God should expect that this life would be ‘poured’ into them;

GENESIS 6:3

³ Then the LORD said, *“My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh: his days shall be 120 years.”*

JOEL 2:28

²⁸ *“And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh...*

ISAIAH 44:3

³ For I will *pour water on the thirsty land*, and streams on the dry ground; I will *pour my Spirit* upon your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.

EZEKIEL 39:29

²⁹ And I will not hide my face anymore from them, when *I pour out my Spirit* upon the house of Israel, declares the Lord GOD.”

The Scriptures taught that ‘water’ was a figurative means of teaching of the renewal and cleansing brought by the life-giving Spirit;

EZEKIEL 36:25-27

²⁵ *I will sprinkle clean water on you*, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

See also: Num. 19:17–19; Ps. 51:9–10; Is. 32:15; 44:3–5; 55:1–3; Jer. 2:13; 17:13; Ezek. 47:9; Joel 2:28–29; Zech. 14:8