

## **JESUS TALKS WITH A RULER**

**John 3:1-21.**

### **LESSON 29 -- Primary Course**

**MEMORY VERSE:** “Ye must be born again” (John 3:7).

#### **BIBLE TEXT: John 3:1-21**

1 There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:

2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

9 Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be?

10 Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?

11 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness.

12 If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?

13 And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.

14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd.

21 But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

## **NOTES:**

### **The Kingdom of God**

Heaven must be a beautiful place. We see many lovely places here on earth, but God has told us in His Word that no eyes have seen such beautiful things as there are in Heaven; no ears have even heard about such great things; and people have not been able to imagine how wonderful Heaven is. Jesus said he was going away to prepare a place for those who love Him, and we know that when Jesus prepares a place, it will be the very best that could possibly be.

We love to be with kind people, so we know it will be the greatest joy to be with Jesus and with God the father, Who are the kindest and best of all who are on earth and in Heaven. And when we go to Heaven we shall be there forever and always be happy. Jesus came to this earth to die for us so that we might be with Him always in His lovely Home.

### **The Punishment**

When Jesus died on the Cross He took upon Himself the punishment that we would have had for the bad things we have done. But because Jesus died for us, we can be forgiven for our sins.

### **Getting Ready for Heaven**

Heaven is a clean place. So the people who live there must be clean and holy. Heaven would not be a safe and beautiful place if people who do bad things were allowed to go there. God could not have wicked people in His Home. So they must be made clean and ready to be there with God.

When Jesus was on earth He taught what they must do to be ready for Heaven.

### **Born Again**

A teacher, one who should have known what to do to be ready, came to Jesus and said he knew that Jesus was also a teacher, Who had come from God, for no one else could do the great things that Jesus did. Then Jesus told the man, Nicodemus, that every man must be saved or he could not go to Heaven. The man did not know what that meant, so perhaps Jesus explained that one must be sorry that one ever did such wrong things as stealing, lying, swearing, getting angry, hating people, and many other bad things. He said that those who did such things must ask God to forgive them; then He washes the heart and makes it white and clean.

Jesus gives one a heart that wants to please Him instead of wanting to disobey Him. When God has made that change in a heart then one is “born again.” God wants all men to be saved – to be “born again.” And Jesus came to earth to tell people how they could be born again, and He did everything He could to help them to have their sins forgiven and be made ready for their home in Heaven with Jesus.

## **QUESTIONS**

1. What must we do to be ready for Heaven? John 3:3.
2. Did Nicodemus know how to get saved before Jesus told him? John 3:9.
3. Does Jesus ever turn a hungry soul away? Luke 1:53; Psalm 107:9.
4. How did Jesus make it possible for us to be saved? John 3:16.
5. What does “born again” mean? I Peter 1:23; I John 5:18.

## LESSON RESOURCES

### MUSIC:

# A Ruler Once Came To Jesus

**WATCH AND PRAY 98**

4  
4↓

s: m. f. s. m. f: s: s:-  
s: d`. d`. d`. d`. t: l: f:-:-  
f: r. m. f. r. m: f: f: -  
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s: d`. d`. d`. d`. d`: t: l:-:  
l. t. d`. t. l. t. d`:.  
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fe. s. l. se. l. li. t: m`: d`::-:-

**SONG:**

## **A Ruler Once Came To Jesus**

A ruler once came to Jesus  
He was by name Nicodemus  
A ruler once came to Jesus  
He was by name Nicodemus  
A ruler once came to Jesus  
He was by name Nicodemus  
He wanted eternal life  
Jesus replied him thus  
“Ye must be born again” (again)



## PICTURE

