

“There was a man ...”



JOHN 3:1-17

Inadequacy of Self v.1-4



- Nicodemus' past works would not get him into heaven.
 - “Pharisee”
 - “ruler of the Jews”
- Nicodemus' knowledge would not get him into heaven.
 - “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God ...”

Insight into Scripture v.5-8, 14



- Nicodemus needed to “born of the water and the Spirit”.

3 Views

- 1) Physical and spiritual birth
 - 2) Baptism and belief
 - 3) Cleansing of the water of the Word and the Spirit
Ezekiel 36:24-27, Ephesians 5:26, Titus 3:5-6
- Nicodemus needed to look to Moses. Numbers 21:9

Indictment of the Spirit v.9-12



- Nicodemus would not let go of his religious system.
- Nicodemus would not let go of his religious understanding.
- Nicodemus would not admit his spiritual ignorance.

Romans 10:2-4, Philippians 3:4-9

Instrument of Salvation v.13-17



Nicodemus needed to look to ...

- The One who descended from heaven. v.13
- The One who was “lifted up” on a cross. v.14
- The One who promises eternal life. v.15
- The One who “gave” His life. v.16
- The One who came to “save” the world. v.17

Applications



- Salvation is by faith through God's grace; my works have nothing to do with it.
- Seek to understand and implement Scripture not just read it.
- As I read Scripture, I can write down what it is teaching me and any questions it may present.