

R GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD IN T  
GINNING WAS THE WORD I AM THE W  
D THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE HE GAVE T  
GHT TO BECOME CHILDREN OF GOD I HA  
ME THAT THE WORLD THROUGH THE WO  
CAME FLESH AND DWELLING  
LONG US TRUST IN GOD. IT ALSO IN I  
D THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE A NE  
MMAND OF YOU LOVE ONE ANOTH  
ROUGH HIM ALL THINGS WERE MADE I A  
E THE WORLD THROUGH WHICH  
HOEVER HEARS MY WORD AND BELIEV

# The Gospel of John

PART 6

It's Not What You Know, But Who You Know

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**A DEFINING MOMENT**

*what is it?*

WHEN YOU COME FACE-TO-FACE  
WITH A TRUTH THAT INVITES YOU  
TO CHANGE THE WAY YOU LIVE.

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**IT'S NOT  
WHAT WE  
KNOW,  
BUT  
WHO WE KNOW  
THAT COUNTS.**

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WITH EVERY  
DISTORTION OF  
TRUTH ABOUT  
GOD, THERE IS A  
CORRESPONDING  
CONSEQUENCE.

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## EPHASUS

1. Ephesus was 4th or 5th largest city in the Roman Empire
2. It was the third richest library in the world during ancient times.
3. Boasted the largest building in the world at that time (temple of Diana)
4. The religion that centered in Ephesus set the standard for everyone else.

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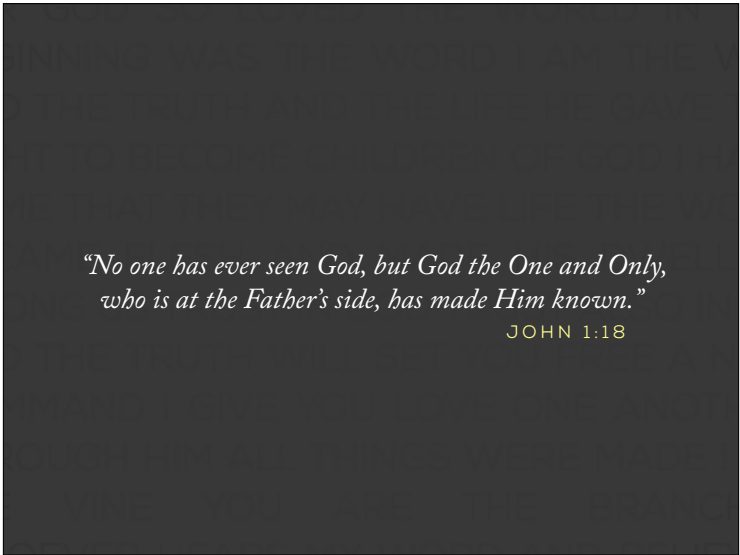
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*“No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only,  
who is at the Father’s side, has made Him known.”*

JOHN 1:18

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IT'S NOT  
**WHAT WE**  
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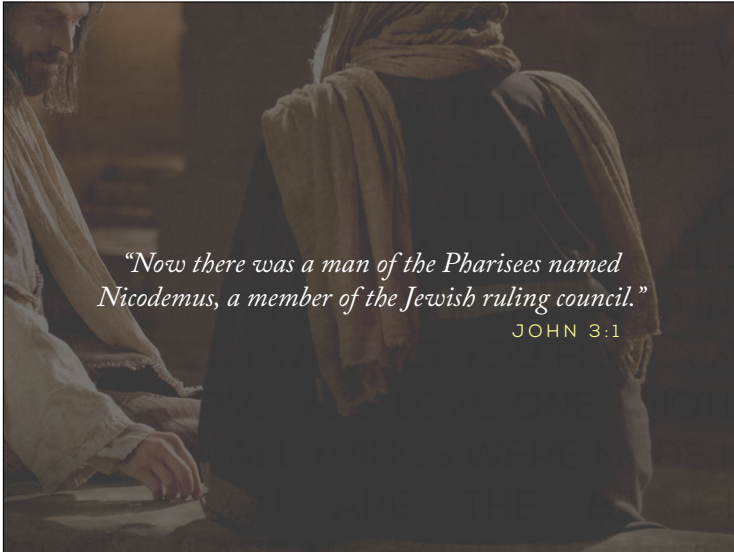
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*“Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council.”*

JOHN 3:1

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## NICODEMUS

1. *Wealthy*
2. *Pharisee*
3. *Ruler of the Jews*

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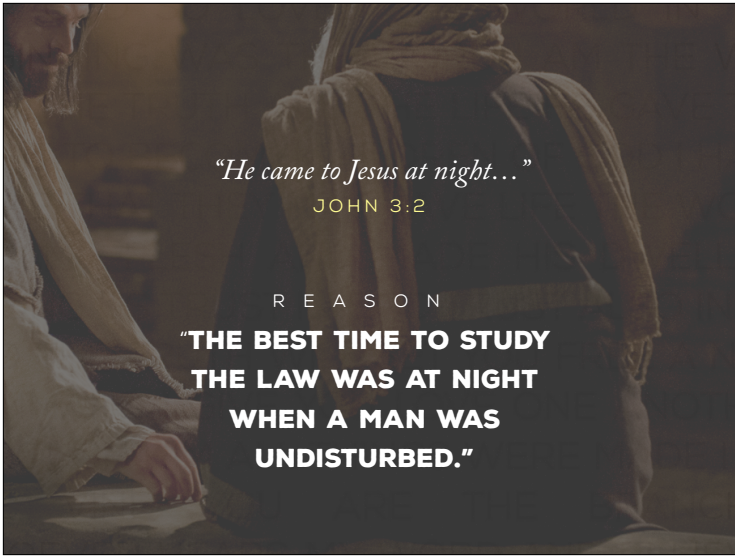
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*"He came to Jesus at night..."*

JOHN 3:2

R E A S O N

**"THE BEST TIME TO STUDY  
THE LAW WAS AT NIGHT  
WHEN A MAN WAS  
UNDISTURBED."**

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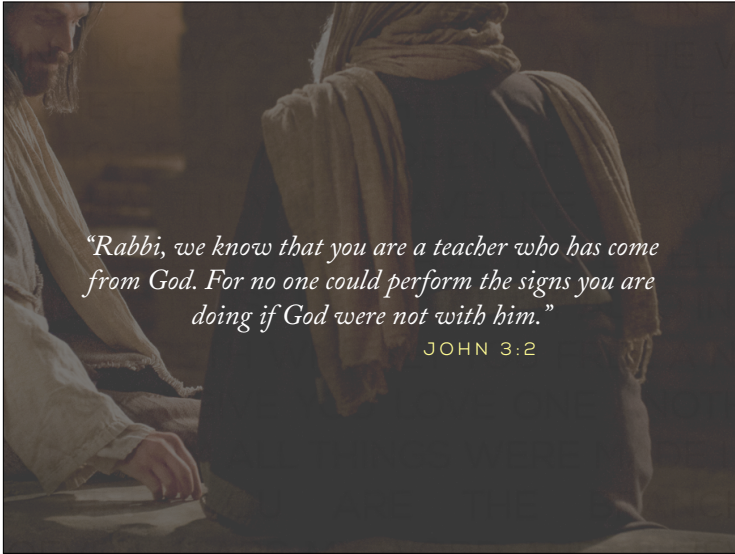
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*"Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him."*

JOHN 3:2

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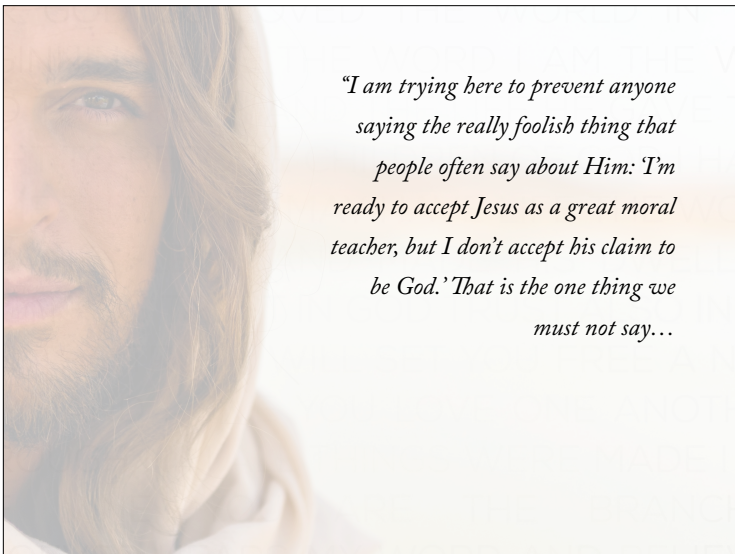
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*"I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: 'I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God.' That is the one thing we must not say..."*

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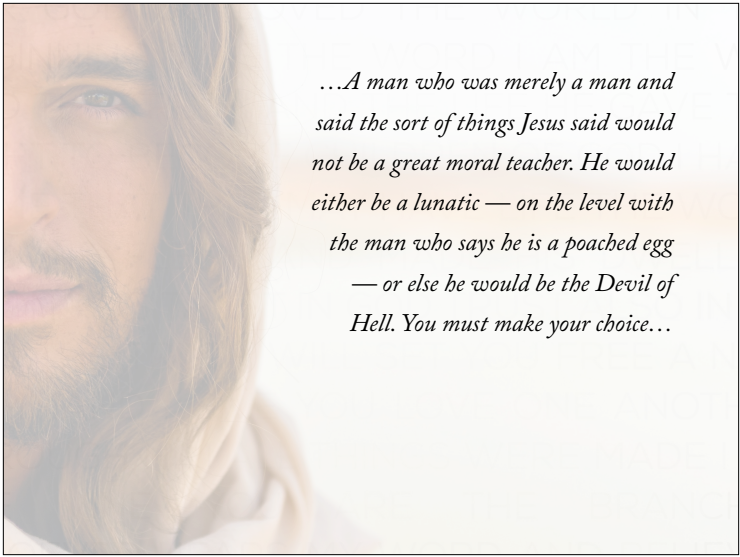
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*...A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic — on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice...*

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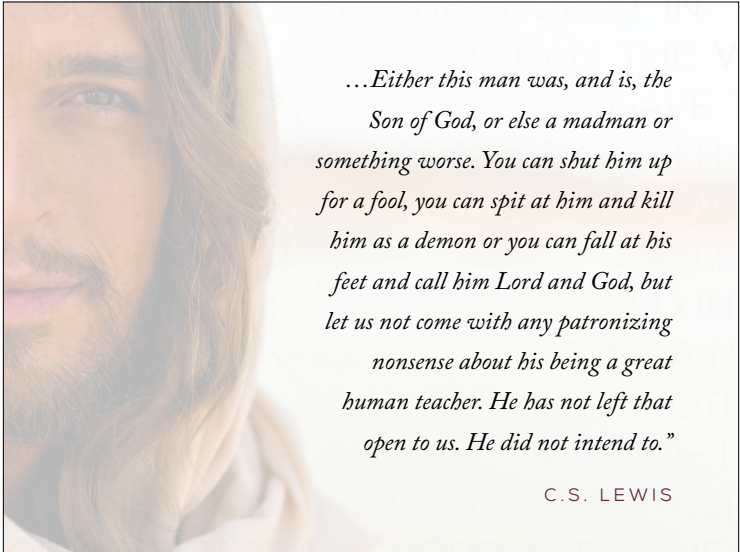
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*...Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.”*

C. S. LEWIS

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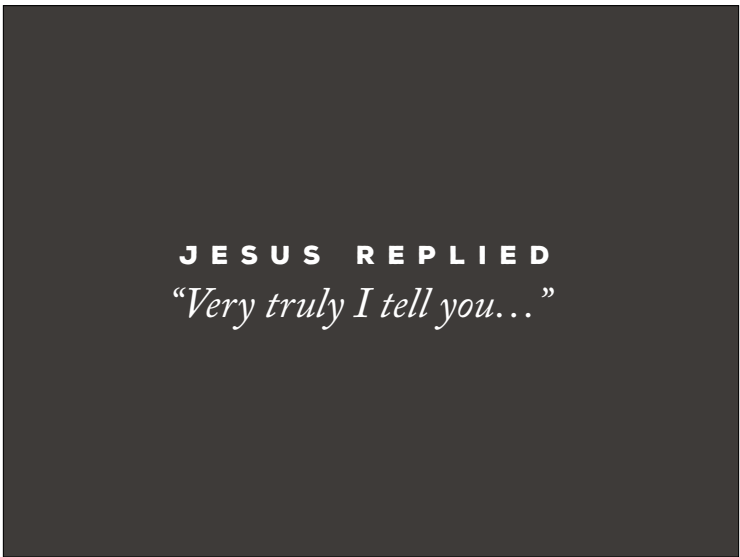
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**J E S U S   R E P L I E D**  
*“Very truly I tell you...”*

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T H E  
**KINGDOM of GOD**

*what does it mean?*



"THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS  
A SOCIETY WHERE GOD'S WILL  
IS AS PERFECTLY DONE ON  
EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN."

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**BORN AGAIN**

→ NOT ABOUT IMPROVING ONE'S  
MORALITY OR SIMPLY HAVING A  
POWERFUL SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE.

→ IT IS A *completely new way* OF  
SEEING THE WORLD.

*"How can someone be born when they are old?"  
Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time  
into their mother's womb to be born!"*

JOHN 3:4

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G R E E K   W O R D

*"anothen"* (ἀνω)

↓  
*"again"*

J E S U S   M E A N T

*"from the first, from the beginning, from the very first"*

*"from above, from a higher place"*

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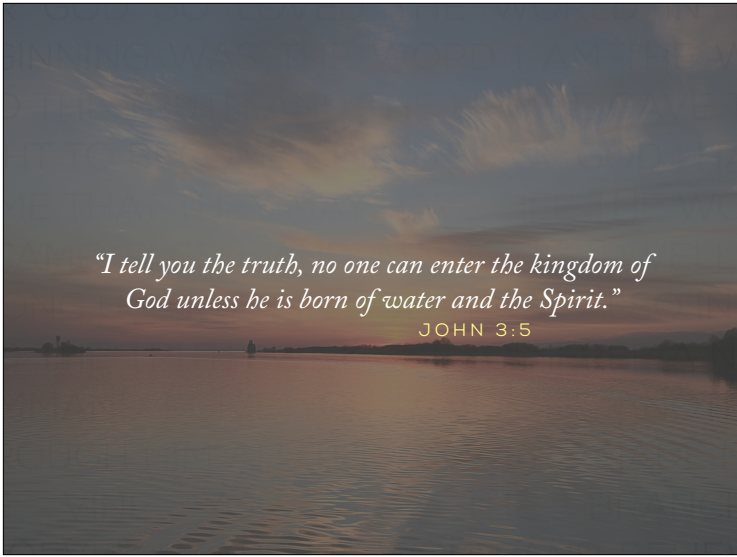
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*"I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit."*

JOHN 3:5

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**QUESTION**

*Why does Jesus use this method?*

**ANSWER**

*In order that we may see people much like ourselves thinking things out for themselves so that we may do the same.*

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**THE GREATEST PROBLEM IN THE 1<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY AND NOW IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY IS STILL THE SAME**

**SIN**

*Sin is looking to something else besides God for your salvation. It is putting yourself in the place of God, becoming your own savior and lord.*

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BE BORN OF WATER AND THE SPIRIT

**WATER**  
*the symbol of cleansing*

*“He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit.”*

TITUS 3:5 (NLT)

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BE BORN OF WATER AND THE SPIRIT

**SPIRIT**  
*the symbol of power*

*“And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”*

2 CORINTHIANS 3:18

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*“Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.”*

JOHN 3:6

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TO BE  
**BORN AGAIN**  
IS TO BE CHANGED IN  
SUCH A WAY THAT IT  
CAN BE DESCRIBED  
ONLY AS RE-BIRTH  
&  
**RE-CREATION**

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The  
Gospel  
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John

PART 6

It's Not What You Know, But Who You Know

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