



GLORY_{of} CHRIST
FELLOWSHIP

YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN

John 3:1-8

March 26, 2017

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 - **The Sanhedrin was the Jewish court system.**
 - **The Sanhedrin in Jerusalem was the Supreme Court.**
 - **It was made up of up to seventy-one members from the Sadducees and the Pharisees.**

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- **John 2:23 tells us that “many” believed in Jesus at that time, some of whom were Jewish leaders.**
- **Nicodemus was different than us and similar to us at the same time.**

Nicodemus's Greeting (3:2b-3)

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 - “Truly, truly” is literally “amen, amen” and expresses conviction and earnestness of soul.
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 - Why did Jesus begin this way? Why did he speak in a way that seems out of step with the greeting?

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- Jesus was saying, "You want to talk about signs; I want to talk about salvation."

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- Jesus again used the “unless-cannot” formula and said, “unless one is born of water and spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God” (3:5).
 - The phrase “born of water and spirit” has been debated for centuries.
 - Calvin was probably right when he said that it is one thing, like “baptizing with the Holy Spirit and fire” (see Matthew 3:11 and Luke 3:16).

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- The wind is mysterious but under God's control; being born from above is also mysterious but under God's control (see John 1:12-13).

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- **In verse 13, Jesus explained why he had the authority to speak of heavenly things.**

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- **This story may seem strange, but it was a living metaphor for the gospel of Jesus Christ.**
- **We don't know how Nicodemus responded but he later defended Jesus (7:50) and showed up at the cross (19:39).**

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- **In a church like this one, it is possible that some are trusting in the wrong things for salvation.**
- **Our religious heritage and practices will not be able to save us.**
- **We must be born from above, so I implore you:**