
John 3:1-36

(Basic Bible in English)

The Gospel of John is probably the simplest gospel to understand. But sometimes we overlook important lessons in the simplest of communications. It's a unique view on the life of Jesus Christ. It gives more details on His personal life and about when He came out to the public. It contains vivid instructions on how to live for Jesus Christ, how to be a Christian. It tells how to walk with Jesus Christ and how to have real peace in your life. The instant you are saved, all your life priorities and objectives change. Now you can live your life through Jesus Christ and you'll be happy and have joy that comes from within and is not affected by what events are going on in your personal life or in the world as you know it. John reveals how the deity came to us in the form of man, Jesus Christ. He didn't reveal everything, and the things God doesn't reveal are not important for us to live our lives as He instructs. Understanding the truth about eternity, God's love, and how to live through Jesus Christ is the basis of the Gospel of John.

John 2:24 But Jesus did not commit himself unto them, because he knew all men, Jesus knows all men's hearts. You can't hide anything from Him.

25 And needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man. There's no way to hide your truths from Jesus.

John 3:1 ¶ There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: Nicodemus was the 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. We don't know why Jesus came to Nicodemus at night.

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. Jesus tells him no one can enter the kingdom of heaven through works. Being born again is the only way to heaven.

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? Nicodemus is thinking of earthly things, not heavenly.

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. Actions and works will not get you into heaven. You can be the nicest most charitable person on the planet, and unless you've been born again and accepted Jesus Christ into your heart as savior, you will not get into heaven for eternity.


6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Nicodemus is thinking in the physical realm but Jesus tells him to think of the spiritual realm.

7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. You need to be born from above, not just the earthly birth.

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. This is an illustration: the wind blows the trees, and you can't see the wind, you don't know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with the spirit of God-you can't see it come in your soul, but it is there and it is very powerful. When you are born of the spirit, a great change occurs. You can't see it, but the changes in your life and character are evident. You still have to obey the laws, but if you don't, you just suffer the consequences in heaven for your actions.

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? Nicodemus, how can you be a teacher of spiritual matters without knowing the truth? You're a Pharisee and you don't know how to get to heaven.



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. Jesus has been doing miracles and yet Nicodemus does not believe Him.

12 If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things? You don't believe what I told you about the wind on the physical realm; why you believe the spiritual lessons I tell you?

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. Nobody has left this earth and went to heaven to have a meeting with God and came back to earth to tell others about it.

14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: Jesus goes into the fulfillment of His earthly ministry here, talking about being resurrected after physical death. God told Moses to make a serpent of brass and lift it up. Brass means judgment, and serpent means evil in scripture. All those who look upon the raised brass serpent and live have a pure heart. That's the symbolism here.

15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. Pure and simple, this is the way to heaven and eternal life. According to the Greek translation, to believe completely, put yourself-your body and soul- into Christ.

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. This is the famous verse that everyone loves to quote. All the work you do, all the laws you try to obey will not get you into the kingdom of heaven. Only belief in Jesus Christ will get you there.

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. World here means all of creation, so all of creation may be saved. Christ did not die for certain people: He died for the sins of the whole world.

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. Again, belief in Jesus Christ means to put yourself into Jesus Christ; belief in Him is the only way to salvation.

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. People love evil and their evil deeds. There are people who hate God and Jesus Christ. It is not their environment or upbringing. There are many people who will give God lip service during the 1000-year period where everything is perfect: no hunger, disease or crime, but they won't mean it. They don't like peace and harmony. They find something to cause contention with all the time.

20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. People are out there who hate goodness, peace, love, and harmony.

21 But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God. Those who are good and love peace and harmony will find their way to God.

22 ¶ After these things came Jesus and his disciples into the land of Judaea; and there he tarried with them, and baptized. Baptized means Jesus Christ's group, His disciples, baptized; not Jesus. This is a national baptism for the nation of Israel to get back in fellowship with God. The church was not involved. This was only for them.


23 And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized.


24 For John was not yet cast into prison. John was doing his thing, now Jesus and His disciples are doing their thing.

25 Then there arose a question between some of John's disciples and the Jews about purifying. Now the public is becoming aware of what they're doing and they have questions.

26 And they came unto John, and said unto him, Rabbi, he that was with thee beyond Jordan, to whom thou barest witness, behold, the same baptizeth, and all men come to him. Many people are coming to Jesus, and they are wondering if this is a competition.

27 John answered and said, A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven.





28 Ye yourselves bear me witness, that I said, I am not the Christ, but that I am sent before him.

29 He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled.

John the Baptist says he's a friend of Jesus and they are not in competition. He's not part of the group, but he's a friend of His group. He reiterates that he told them he comes before Jesus, and Jesus is here now.

30 He must increase, but I must decrease. All John's followers must go follow Jesus now.

31 He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is above all.

32 And what he hath seen and heard, that he testifieth; and no man receiveth his testimony.

33 He that hath received his testimony hath set to his seal that God is true.

34 For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him. Jesus Christ does not have a part of the Holy Spirit; He has the WHOLE Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ is God in the flesh.

35 The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand.

36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him. If you believe in Jesus Christ and accept Him in your heart as your savior, you will go to heaven. If you do not believe in Jesus Christ, you will not go to heaven. You make a choice by not making a choice. Heaven or hell for eternity: it's your choice.