



JESUS IS THE REGENERATOR

SERMON #5

JOHN 3:1-21

TO KNOW JESUS AS...

- Jesus is the **WORD**—both the Creator and Savior
- Jesus is the **LAMB**—takes away the sins of the world
- Jesus is the **TRANSFORMER**—turning water into wine
- And Jesus **cleansed** the temple (and the temple of our heart too)
- Now let us look at Jesus is **REGENERATOR**—to be born again



MORE THAN A SECOND CHANCE



- Many people want a second chance in life (ill. a do over)
- Born again is far more than just a second chance or the forgiveness of sins—it is a **new life** and a **new creation** (John 1:4; 2 Cor. 5:17)
- Jesus desires us to have a new life—the biblical term is regeneration
- So what is born again or regeneration? Why is this important? And how does our everyday lives be different because of it?

WHAT IS BORN AGAIN?



- Jesus is **life** (1:4) and can give life to His believers (John 5:21)
- (Titus 3:5-7) a spiritual **new birth** from death to life (Eph. 2:1-5)
- This is a **second** birth (spiritual) apart from the first (2 Cor 5:17; Gal 6:15) one based on flesh, and the other Spirit (John 3:6)
- Clearly Jesus thought that Nicodemus should understand...why?
- The reference in v5-6 was found in Ezekiel. 36:25-27 (also read Tit. 3:5-6)
- New birth leads to a new **divine** nature (2 Peter 1:4)



WHY MUST WE BE BORN AGAIN?



- Instead of an entirely new life in Christ, fully relying on God, we often want to work on a better version of our current self instead
- It will never work, born of the flesh will always belong to the flesh (Rom. 8:5-8) We will never find **true joy** in our old self (ill.)
- It is all based on His love (John 3:16) we must recognize that we do not only need a savior, we need a life giver that can give us a spiritual life in God and in His love (Rom. 8:9-17)



HOW CAN WE HAVE THIS NEW LIFE?

- Note: There was something interesting about **Nicodemus**
- He came by **night**—wanted an uninterrupted discussion
- He called Jesus a *rabbi* and *teacher* even though it was Nicodemus that had far more education (Pharisees)
- His heart was ready (Matt 13:8) since he was humble before Christ (James 4:6)—He came because he knew he **needed** Jesus
- Can you accept that you need Jesus more than just a better self?



CONCLUSION

- Nicodemus **honored** Jesus even though he deserved more earthly honor (Sanhedrin), because he **believed** that Jesus is from God
- He **believed**—just like the Israelites in the wilderness (3:14; Num. 21:7-9) but not all of them...some rather die
- Moreover, many believed that they need a **savior**, but not all of them believe that they need a need life in Christ. Do you?
- A humble heart and trusting in Jesus is still the only way. How are you going to respond to Jesus' love for you? (Rom. 8:31-39)

