

So that Jesus says to Nicodemus “As Moses lifted up the \_\_\_\_\_ in the wilderness, \_\_\_\_\_ must the Son of Man be lifted up; so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life. For God so \_\_\_\_\_ the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever \_\_\_\_\_ in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to \_\_\_\_\_ the world, but that the world might be \_\_\_\_\_ through Him. He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged \_\_\_\_\_, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. John 3:14-18

What a magnificent summation of the Gospel. Sin was the \_\_\_\_\_, judgment was the \_\_\_\_\_, but the \_\_\_\_\_ was the \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

Read John 12:32 and consider what Christ is promising in this passage.

Consider why it is important to understand sin and judgment in order to truly appreciate the Grace of God?

#### **PREPARATION FOR NEXT CLASS:**

Read John Chapter 4

# **A STUDY OF THE GOSPEL OF JOHN**

**BY PASTOR ISAAC DE LOS SANTOS**

*“Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews; this man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You have come from God [as] a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him." Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:1-3*

## **THE NECESSITY OF THE NEW BIRTH**

While meeting with Nicodemus a \_\_\_\_\_ leader, Jesus makes the statement that \_\_\_\_\_ a man is \_\_\_\_\_ he cannot see the Kingdom of God. What then is this new birth, and how is it obtained. First of all we need to note that Jesus is using a figure of speech known as an \_\_\_\_\_. Idioms are not to be understood as literal statements.

## **DEFINING THE NEW BIRTH**

**#1 The New Birth is a \_\_\_\_\_ birth.**

By implication this birth did not take place when your \_\_\_\_\_ birth took place. It is a separate \_\_\_\_\_ experience, which must take place in order for one to enter the Kingdom of God.

**#2 The New Birth is \_\_\_\_\_.**

Regeneration is an act of God whereby He \_\_\_\_\_ the spiritual condition of a sinner, by the work of the \_\_\_\_\_ so that the person then possesses new life.

*“He saved us, not on the basis of \_\_\_\_\_ which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the \_\_\_\_\_ of regeneration and \_\_\_\_\_ by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.” Titus 3:5-7*

### #3 The New Birth is \_\_\_\_\_.

No one can enter the Kingdom of God who is not \_\_\_\_\_, therefore this ought to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ to greater evangelism.

## A TYPE OF CHRIST

Let us now look at one of the type which Christ uses to explain His \_\_\_\_\_ to Nicodemus. He said “As Moses lifted up the \_\_\_\_\_ in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; so that whoever \_\_\_\_\_ will in Him have eternal life.” This is a reference to Numbers 21, in which we see the tree primary \_\_\_\_\_ of the Gospel. The first component to the Gospel story always begins in the same place; \_\_\_\_\_. Sin is the reason for the \_\_\_\_\_ of Man, and it is behind the episode which takes place in Numbers 21. What was the sin of Israel in this story.

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Consider how our culture views sin today, we no longer like to use the word “sin”, instead we say \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_. But by refusing to call sin what it is, we as a culture have closes the door to understanding the Gospel. As Dr. Albert Mohler states “*where sin is not sin, \_\_\_\_\_ cannot be grace. What need do men have for the \_\_\_\_\_ when they are told that their problem is something less than what the \_\_\_\_\_ teaches.*”

Now the next component of the Gospel which is seen here is \_\_\_\_\_. I realize that judgment is a \_\_\_\_\_ word in America today. We hate the idea of a \_\_\_\_\_ who \_\_\_\_\_ sin.

We see a shift has occurred in our cultures view of \_\_\_\_\_ justice. “How” the culture asks “can a \_\_\_\_\_ God judge \_\_\_\_\_ people?” We used to call prisons “prison,” then the term changed to \_\_\_\_\_, then to, \_\_\_\_\_. And since the culture thinks that it has evolved away from “punishment” to \_\_\_\_\_ then they want God to change also. For instance the teaching on Hell as a real place where \_\_\_\_\_ sinners will go is unpopular in America. Thus \_\_\_\_\_ has become a bad word in the \_\_\_\_\_, but almost nowhere else. Its sad to say but the more we try to soft peddle the truth about \_\_\_\_\_, the more people we doom to go there. God is a good, but His goodness does not cancel out His \_\_\_\_\_.

How did God judge Israel in this story

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## LOOK AND LIVE

We have seen “sin,” and “judgment.” But now we can fully understand the Gospel revealed in the final component of this story. God tells Moses that if those bitten by the serpents will \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ on a staff, they will live. Here we see the culmination of the type, for all of us have \_\_\_\_\_, and as a result we are all under the \_\_\_\_\_ of God. Judgment was our rightful \_\_\_\_\_, and God was justified in doing so. Yet Christ came, and took the place of sinners, suffered the \_\_\_\_\_ of God on our behalf, and opened wide a door of \_\_\_\_\_.