

THE FIRST JOHN STUDY

CHAPTER 2:1-2

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER WN-265 MAY 19, 1999

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

What Does 'Born Again' Mean?

THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

1 John 1:3

"that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ."

SUBJECT REFERENCE:

Salvation, Forgiveness of Sin, Atonement,

1 John 2:1-2

My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

John 3:1-8

There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. 2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him." 3 Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." 4 Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" 5 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 "Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' 8 "The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Jesus Introduces a Radical Challenge to Mankind

we must either experience a second birth or we will be forever lost in our first

Nicodemus was more than Religious!

Matthew 5:20

"For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

Jesus Cut Nick Off at The Knees

John 3:7

"Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'

Acceptance Before God is Not Obtained by

Moral Good, Humanitarian Effort, or Becoming a Monk
and Joining a Monastery

Growing Old in a Religion-Based Faith is Death

But As The Christian Grows
in His Relationship to God there is a
"child-likeness" that develops.

Marked By;

peace, like a child has. security, like a child has. confidence, like a child has.

When a Little Child Walks into The Room

they hear trumpets / they see a kingdom / they see themselves

A Child Really Thinks

that everything in this world is here for them.

The clouds are theirs, the ocean is theirs, everything is theirs

They Grab Everything and Make it Theirs

and put it in their mouths, why? Because it is their most colorful sensory!

@#\$%^ "Taste" ^%\$#@

it's there that the color of the Thing - gets its Flavor

The Problem Was, Nicodemus Had Grown Up!

Luke 11:42

"But woe to you Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs,
but you pass by justice **and the love of God**."

You See, Jesus Was Inviting Nick

to Grow Down to How Children Are in Life

Luke 18:15-17

15 Then the people also brought infants to Jesus that He might touch them; but when His disciples saw it, they rebuked the parents of them. 16 But Jesus called them to Him and said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; **for of such is the kingdom of God**. 17 "Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God **as a little child** will by no means enter it."

for of such is the kingdom of God

Children Who Know They're Loved
often become pioneers and explorers because they can

1.) The Christian's Desire - Is to Draw Near to God

My little children,
these things I write to you, so that you may not sin.

a.) The Relationship of Love Between God and Man

v.1a

"My little children..."

b.) The Instruction of a Loving Father

v.1b

“these things I write to you...”

In The Old Testament

Deuteronomy 6:6-9

"And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. 7 "You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. 8 "You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 "You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING INSTRUCTED FROM THE WORD

2 Timothy 3:16

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine,
for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

Psalm 119:11

Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You!

c.) The Desire of Our Loving God

v.1c

“so that you may not sin...”

that is “sin at living - living in sin”

The Prodigal Son Left The Pigpen

and Went Home Because He was a Son and Not a Pig

Ecclesiastes 7:20

For there is not a just man on earth who does good and does not sin...

The Sins of Omission

James 4:17

Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.

Obedience!

there are 3 motives to obedience

#1

is because we **have** to obey;
a slave **has** to obey their master - they **have** to

#2

is because we **need** to obey;
an employee **needs** to obey the company - they **need** to

#3

is because we **want** to obey;
a Christian **wants** to obey their God - they **want** to

((I Know That There Are People Who Attend This Church
Who Are Lost and Unsaved and Headed for Hell))

((They Have No Appetite for the Things of God))

John 14:15-16

"If you love Me, keep My commandments.....

The Very Next Verse

"And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever--

A **Young Christian** Obeys Because they
know that they **have to**...

As a **Christian Grows Along** They Obey Because they
know that they **need to**...

And a **Mature Christian** Obeys Because they
know that they **want to**...

2.) The Christian's Defender - Is Jesus Christ Alone

And if anyone sins, we have an **Advocate** with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous

a.) The Power of Sin Has Been Removed from Our Lives v.1a

"And if anyone sins..."

Sin is Powerful Because of

#1

The Fact That We Are Fallen Creatures

#2

And because of The Law of God

Romans 7:7-9

What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, "You shall not covet." 8 But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me all manner of evil desire. For apart from the law sin was dead. 9 I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died.

God is Holy

nothing unholy is allowed in His presence
because what is unholy is consumed before it even gets near to Him

Hebrews 12:29

For our God is a consuming fire.

Holiness is a Requirement
like air is Life

b.) The Influence of Jesus Christ for Us

v.1b

“we have an **Advocate** with the Father...”



advocate

grk 3875 parakletos (par-ak'-lay-tos);

a representative that stands with you, an intercessor who's alongside you, a consoler, a comforter that can touch you.

2 Timothy 4:16-17

At my first defense no one stood with me, but all forsook me. May it not be charged against them. 17
But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me, so that the message

Acts 7:55-56

But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, 56 and said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"

If At This Hour,

You're Still Refusing to Become a Follower of Jesus
Then You Have NO Defender to Plead for Your Eternal Soul

You Have No One to Plead your Situation

Hebrews 10:31

It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

c.) The Power of Jesus Christ Becomes Our Strength

v.1c

Jesus Christ the righteous

The Sufficiency of Christ's Offering



the righteous grk

1349 dike (dee'-kay)

the just one, the principle. (As the authority) the innocent

The Very Nature and Attribute of Righteousness Personified

Jesus Christ the righteous

Jesus Christ, The **Best** - Jesus Christ, The **Only** - Jesus Christ, The **Fix**

3.) The Christian's Debt of Sin - Is Paid in Full v.2

And He Himself is the **propitiation** for our sins,
and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

a.) The Unique Person of Christ v.2a

"And He Himself..."

The Lord God is Savior

Titus 2:13

looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

b.) The Ultimate Payment for Our Sins v.2b

"is the **propitiation** for our sins..."



propitiation

grk 2434 hilasmos (hil-as-mos');

the atonement, the sacrifice, the payment against a debt

Jesus is Not
the **Co**-atonement, the **Co**-sacrifice, the **Co**-payment
The Atonement is All of Him and Him Alone

That Depth of Atonement

demands everything we are and have - everything!!!

Romans 3:23-25

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. 25 God presented him as a sacrifice of **propitiation**, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice,

1 John 4:10

In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the **propitiation** for our sins.

Hebrews 2:17-18

Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make **propitiation** for the sins of the people. 18 For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

c.) The Unlimited Power of Jesus' Sacrifice

v.2c

and not for ours (our sins only) only but also for **the whole world**.

for the whole world

God's Love for Us Alone Cannot Change Our Condition.

His Love Must Act If We Are Ever Going To Be With Him in Eternity

That Act of Love Was a Brutal Roman Cross

Amplified Version of Romans 2:4-5

Do you show contempt for all the riches of his kindness, his tolerance and his patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you toward repentance? -- *(if you cannot see this it's)* because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you're still lost and you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed.

Just the Beginning...