

current sermon series

THE
GOSPEL *of* **JOHN**

THAT YOU MAY BELIEVE

John 3:1-18

Now 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.”

John 3:1-18

³ Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, 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,

John 3:1-18

“Truly, truly, 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.’

John 3:1-18

⁸ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

John 3:1-18

⁹ Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹ Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen,

John 3:1-18

but you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.

John 3:1-18

¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

John 3:1-18

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world,

John 3:1-18

but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

Christianity is not...

a new religion

a new set of teachings/philosophy

a new set of rules for us to follow

a new set of morals for us to adhere

The New Birth

The New Birth is an act of God by which new life is implanted in a person with the result that the governing disposition of the soul is made Godward.

The New Birth

The New Birth is the creation of a new governing disposition by the implanting of the Holy Spirit, creating a new nature that is really you [a you that is forgiven and cleansed] and really new and that nature is being continually formed by the now indwelling Holy Spirit.

John 3:5

⁵ Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

John 3:9-10

⁹ Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things?”

Ezekiel 36:24-28

I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. ²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

Ezekiel 36:24-28

²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

Ezekiel 36:24-28

28 You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

The New Birth

We are forgiven [cleansed] of all our sin.

Removal of the heart of stone

Given a new heart of flesh

The implanting of the Holy Spirit

The New Birth

The New Birth is when the Spirit unites us to Christ [death and resurrection] where there is cleansing for our sins. He replaces our hard, unresponsive heart with a soft heart that treasures Jesus above all things.

The New Birth

This new heart is being formed in you by the presence of the Spirit into the kind of heart [person] that loves God and loves to do His will.

The New Birth

Run John Run, the Law Commands
But gives us neither feet nor hands
Far better news the gospel brings
It bids us fly and gives us wings.