

“Wingtips”

Nicodemus at Night

John 3:1-2 NLT

There was a man named Nicodemus, a Jewish religious leader who was a Pharisee. After dark one evening, he came to speak with Jesus. “Rabbi,” he said, “we all know that God has sent you to teach us. Your miraculous signs are evidence that God is with you.”

The issue is where you are going.

John 3:3 NLT

Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God.”

John 3:4 NLT

“What do you mean?” exclaimed Nicodemus. “How can an old man go back into his mother’s womb and be born again?”

John 3:5-7, 10 NLT

Jesus replied, “I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life. So don’t be surprised when I say, ‘You must be born again.’ Jesus replied, “You are a respected Jewish teacher, and yet you don’t understand these things?”

Brad Pitt, Rolling Stone Magazine

“Man, I know all these things are supposed to seem important to us- the cars, the condo, our version of success- but if that’s the case why is the general feeling out there reflecting more impotence and isolation and desperation and loneliness? If you ask, me I say toss all this- we gotta find something else... I don’t have those answers yet. The emphasis now is on success and personal gain. I’m the guy who’s got everything. I’m sitting in it, and I’m telling you, this is not it.”

John 3:13-15 NLT

No one has ever gone to heaven and returned. But the Son of Man has come down from heaven. And as Moses lifted up the bronze snake on a pole in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life.

Numbers 21:8 NLT

Then the LORD told him, “Make a replica of a poisonous snake and attach it to a pole. All who are bitten will live if they simply look at it!”

John 3:16-17 NLT

“For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him.”

John 7:50-51 NLT

Then Nicodemus, the leader who had met with Jesus earlier, spoke up. “Is it legal to convict a man before he is given a hearing?” he asked.

Lee Strobel, “The Case for Christ”

“All I had given the evidence was a cursory look. I had read just enough philosophy and history to find support for my skepticism- in fact here, a scientific theory there, a pithy quote, a cleaver argument. Sure, I could see some gaps and inconsistencies, but I had a strong motivation to ignore them: a self-serving and immoral lifestyle that I would be compelled to abandon if I were to ever change my views and become a follower of Jesus. As far as I was concerned, the case was closed. There was enough proof for me to rest easy with the conclusion that the divinity of Jesus was nothing more than the fanciful invention of superstitious people. Or so I thought.”

John 19:38-40 NLT

Afterward Joseph of Arimathea, who had been a secret disciple of Jesus (because he feared the Jewish leaders), asked Pilate for permission to take down Jesus’ body. When Pilate gave permission, Joseph came and took the body away. With him came Nicodemus, the man who had come to Jesus at night. He brought about seventy-five pounds of perfumed ointment made from myrrh and aloes. Following Jewish burial custom, they wrapped Jesus’ body with the spices in long sheets of linen cloth.

“Wingtips”

Presented by Pastor David Bellows

Christ’s Church of Marion County

September 23, 2018

Page 2 of 2