

PLEASANT VIEW PROCLAIMER

January 19, 2025

Welcome!



“And He said to him, ‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”

Join us at 6:00pm for part 1 of the final lesson in our “Why Should I Believe?” series. This lesson will deal with “The Problem of Hell”

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Prayer List

Kim Waller is recuperating at home from a fractured femur and ankle

Remember the **Kirk** family in the loss of their 3 year old daughter

Gavin Martin is recovering at home after a severe car accident

Continue to pray for: the **Paul** family, **James Gupton**, the **John Hayes** family, **Brian West** family, **Rebecca Brown**, **Donnie Garrett**, **Forshia Pennington**, **Camille Brosky**, those in **Ukraine**, and **Bill Gillock**



We invite everyone to join us Wednesday night at 7pm as we continue our study of Hebrews

Serving Today

Song Leader:
Jeff Baker

SUNDAY SCHOOL (9:30 am)

Scripture Reading:
Lowell Gregory

Prayer:
Eddie Walker

WORSHIP (10:30 am)

Scripture Reading:
Jearmie Gupton
John 3:3-6

Wait On Table:
Mike Reed

Serve:
Dwight Pennington
Doug Demonbreum

Prayer:
David Billingsley

Service Times

Sunday Bible Study	9:30 am
Sunday AM Worship	10:30 am
Sunday PM Worship	6:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 pm

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Outline of John 3

- I. Jesus Explains the Plan of Salvation (1-21)
 - a. C _____ of Nicodemus (1)
 - b. C _____ of Nicodemus (2)
 - c. C _____ of Jesus (3, 5)
 - d. C _____ of Nicodemus (4, 9)
 - e. C _____ from Jesus (6-8, 14-15)
 - f. C _____ of Nicodemus (10-12)
 - g. C _____ from Jesus (16-21)
- II. John Exalts the Person of Salvation (22-36)
 - a. The Argument (22-26)
 - b. The Affirmation (27-36)

B _____ (3-8) - Why does Jesus use the metaphor of being “born” to describe what is necessary to be a part of the “kingdom of God” (v. 3)? The metaphor of “birth” or “creation” was used by the apostles John (**John 1:10-13**), Paul (**2Co 5:17; Gal 6:15**), and Peter (**1Pe 1:3, 23**) to describe our relationship to Jesus. Birth represents an entrance into life, so Jesus describes our entrance into a new spiritual life as being “born again”.

As will become a theme in John (**John 4:15; 6:34**), Nicodemus cannot get his mind above the physical concept of birth. This is why he asks the question about entering His mother’s womb a second time (v. 4). His confusion is understandable, because, like all of us, he lived in the natural world. Jesus is trying to get him to see beyond the physical and consider the spiritual. Accepting Jesus is the beginning of something new.

Jesus’ follow-up about being “born of water and Spirit” (v. 5) is clearly an allusion to one’s baptism into Christ. Later, Peter will tell the great crowd gathered in Jerusalem for Pentecost that to accept Christ, they must “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” (**Acts 2:38**). Baptism is not just a ceremony. It represents our receiving God’s Holy Spirit and the beginning of our new life in Christ (**Rom 6:1-4**). We are “born again”!

Jesus goes on to explain that we have our first fleshly birth, then those who accept Christ in baptism have a second spiritual birth (v. 6). As we see from Jesus’ continued explanations, Nicodemus is struggling with the “How” of this new spiritual birth (v. 7). Jesus uses an illustration about the working of the wind (v. 8) to explain that one does not need to be able to understand **How** the Spirit works to bring about the new birth in our baptism. God is beyond our comprehension, and His working will always be a mystery to us while on this earth (**Rom 11:33**).

B _____ (14-18) – Three times in these verses, Jesus says the words “believe in Him” (vv. 15, 16, 18). The “Him” is the Son of Man (**Dan 7:13-14**), which was a designation Jesus gave to Himself. Believing in Him implies a contrast. If we can believe in Christ, we can believe in something else as well (i.e. “not believe” in Christ v. 18). The decision to be “born again” in Christ is a choice. From the fall of man (**Gen 3**), God began revealing His plan to save mankind from their sin (**Gen 3:14-15; 12:1-3**), because we all stood condemned. Jesus came to offer a rescue from this certain condemnation (v. 17). How do we accept this offer? By believing in Him. What does it mean to “believe in Him”? It represents a willingness to place the full weight of our lives on Him instead of anything else (like self).