

Jesus and Nicodemus

There was a man named Nicodemus who was a Pharisee and a Jewish leader. One night he went to Jesus and said,

N “Sir, we know that God has sent you to teach us. You could not work these miracles, unless God were with you.”

J “I tell you for certain that you must be born from above[a] before you can see God’s kingdom!”

N “How can a grown man ever be born a second time?”

J “I tell you for certain that before you can get into God’s kingdom, you must be born not only by water, but by the Spirit. Humans give life to their children. Yet only God’s Spirit can change you into a child of God. Don’t be surprised when I say that you must be born from above. 8 Only God’s Spirit gives new life. The Spirit is like the wind that blows wherever it wants to. You can hear the wind, but you don’t know where it comes from or where it is going.

N “How can this be?”

J “How can you be a teacher of Israel and not know these things? I tell you for certain that we know what we are talking about because we have seen it ourselves. But none of you will accept what we say. If you don’t believe when I talk to you about things on earth, how can you possibly believe if I talk to you about things in heaven?”