你们必须重生 YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN

约翰福音 3:1-15 The Gospel of John 3:1-15

引言 Intro:

出名的人会吸引许多的粉丝。

Famous people will attract many fans.

耶稣也算是很出名的,因为他也吸引了许多的粉丝来看他表演神迹奇事。

Jesus can be considered as very famous because he also attracted many fans to turn up and see him performing miracles. 可悲的是,这些粉丝中的许多人都仅是参加了免费的奇迹表演,没有任何一步的兴趣。

Sadly, many of these fans went no further than attending free miracle show.

今天早上我们要看一个愿意更深入一步去认识耶稣的人。

This morning we want to take a look at one man who did go deeper to get to know Jesus.

A. 夜里来见耶稣 (1-2) Coming to See Jesus at Night (1-2)

约 3:1 有一个法利赛人,名叫尼哥底母, 是犹太人的官。

John 3:1 Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council.

尼哥底母是个有学识、权势、声望的犹太人领袖。

Nicodemus is a Jewish leader with knowledge, power, and prestige.

约 3:2 这人夜里来见耶稣,说:「拉比,我们知道你是由神那里来作师傅的;因为你所行的神迹,若没有神同在,无人能行。」

John 3:2 He came to Jesus at night and said, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.'

为什么尼哥底母要在夜里来见耶稣?

Why did Nicodemus come to see Jesus at night?

有人认为尼哥底母作为一位有声望的犹太人领袖,不好意思让人看见他来找耶稣。

Some people think that Nicodemus, as a Jewish leader with prestige, is embarrassed to let him see him come to Jesus.

也有人认为是因为尼哥底母想更私密的与耶稣 交谈,所以夜里来见耶稣。

Others think that because Nicodemus wanted to talk to Jesus more privately, so he came to see Jesus at night.

事实是,他来了!而其他犹太领袖则继续采取反对耶稣立场。

The fact is, *he came!* Whereas other Jewish leaders kept on taking the position to stand against Jesus.

还有一个观点,是认为"夜里"这个词是要表达尼哥底母的内心状况。

Another point of view is that the word "at night" is used to express Nicodemus's inner condition.

让我们简单看一下使徒约翰如何使用"夜晚":

Let's take a brief look at how "at night" is used in John:

约 9:4 趁著白日,我们必须作那差我来者的工; **黑夜将到,<u>就没有人能做工了</u>**。

John 9:4 As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work.

约 11:10 *若在黑夜走路,<u>就必跌倒</u>*,因为他没有光。」

John 11:10 It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light.'

记得卖主的犹太吗?

Remember Judas who **betrayed the Lord**?

Joh 13:30 犹大受了那点饼,立刻就出去。*那 时候是夜间了*。

As soon as Judas had taken the bread, he went out. *And it was night*.

我们看到,约翰在约翰福音里使用"夜里"来描述人的*脆弱状况*。

We see that John uses "at night" in the Gospel of John to describe man's vulnerable condition.

我们都有这样的经验:白天我们扮演着不同的角色-家长或儿女、工人或老板、职员或顾客、亲戚或朋友等等的身份。

We all have the experience that during the day we play different roles - parents or children, workers or bosses, staffs or customers, relatives or friends, etc.

白天我们知道我们是谁。

During the day we know who we are.

晚上,躺在床上,脱下了白天的角色,有的时候我们突然感觉失落和茫然,不知道真正的我到底是谁。

In the evening, lying in bed, taking off the roles of the day, sometimes we suddenly **feel lost and confused**, **wondering who I am**.

尼哥底母白天里是大家和他自己熟悉的法利赛人、圣经老师(10)、和犹太人的官。

During the day, familiar to others and himself, Nicodemus was a Pharisee, the Bible teacher (10), and a leader of the Jews.

但是他也有那种夜里失落和茫然的状况, 所以他想或许耶稣可以帮助他。因此, 他来见耶稣。

But he also had the kind of lost and confused moments at night, so he thought maybe Jesus could help him. Therefore, he came to see Jesus.

尼哥底母虽然有地位、权势、是有声望的圣经老师,却也知道他还有缺欠。

Although Nicodemus had status, power, was a prestigious Bible teacher, yet he knew he still had shortcomings.

那我们呢? What about us?

尼哥底母希望耶稣可以解答他的秘密疑难。

Nicodemus hoped that Jesus could answer his secret questions.

当他说: "拉比,我们<u>知道</u>你是由神那里来作师傅的..."时,他还是脱不掉他**犹太人领袖**的身份。

When he said, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God....', he still could not take off his status as a Jewish leader.

他以为凭他的圣经知识和观察,他懂得神,也认识了耶稣是谁。

He thought that with his Bible knowledge and observations, he understood God and knew who Jesus was.

但是耶稣要让尼哥底母知道,还有许多关于神的事情,尼哥底母并不懂得。

But Jesus wanted Nicodemus to know that there were many things concerning God Nicodemus did not know.

我们是否认为我们摸透了神是谁吗?

Do we suppose we have figured God out?

B. 人必须要重生 (2-10) The Necessity of Being Born Again (2-10)

约 3:3 耶稣回答说: 「我实实在在的告诉你,**人若**不重生,就*不能见*神的国。」

John 3:3 Jesus replied, 'Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.'

从<u>神迹</u>中看到某些意义 **Seeing** some meaning in <u>miracles</u>



见到上帝的国度 Seeing the kingdom of God

神的国度 Kingdom of God



神的统管 Reign of God

耶稣邀请尼哥底母从"知道"真理的知识进到"亲身体验、接受"神的统管。

Jesus invited Nicodemus to go from "knowing" the knowledge of truth to "personally experiencing, receiving" the reign of God.

与上帝建立关系

Having a relationship with God

评估上帝

Evaluating God

耶稣说'人若不重生,就不能见神的国。' Jesus said **'no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again**.'

约3:4 尼哥底母说:「人已经老了,如何能重生呢? 岂能再进母腹生出来吗?」

John 3:4 'How can someone be born when they are old?' Nicodemus asked. 'Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!'

尼哥底母认为耶稣说的**重生**是*不可能的*。

Nicodemus thought that the **born again** that Jesus talked about was *impossible*.

约 3:5 耶稣说: 「我实实在在的告诉你,人若不是从水和圣灵生的,就不能进神的国。 6 从肉身生的就是肉身; 从灵生的就是 灵。7 我说: 『你们必须重生』, 你不要以为希奇。

John 3:5 Jesus answered, 'Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. 6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. 7 You should not be surprised at my saying, "You must be born again."

虽然尼哥底母表示**重生是一件不可能的事情**,耶稣却一再强调<u>人必须重生</u>才能见/进神的国。

Although Nicodemus said that to be born again was an impossible thing, Jesus repeatedly stressed that <u>man must be born</u> <u>again</u> to see / enter the kingdom of God.

重生是什么意思呢?

What does born gain mean?

- 3:5'从水和圣灵生的'
- 3:5 'born of water and the Spirit'
- 3:6 '从灵生的'
- 3:6 'Spirit gives birth....'
- 3:8 '从圣灵生的'
- 3:8 'born of the Spirit'

神的作为

The work of God

第5节提到"从水和圣灵生的",有人会以为这 "水"是指水礼,以为人必须经过水礼才能重生。

Verse 5 refers to "born of water and Spirit." Some may think that this "water" refers to the water baptism, and one must be baptized to be born again.

其实,"水"并不是指<u>水礼</u>。希腊文的文法告诉 我们"水和圣灵"是一体的,不能拆开。

In fact, "water" does not mean water Baptism. Greek grammar tells us that "water and Spirit" is one unit and cannot be disassembled. 旧约以西结书36:25-27 提到神将来要做的事。

The Old Testament book **Ezekiel 36:25-27** talks about what God would do in the future.

在那里,"水"是象征**人从污秽中得洁净**,而"灵"是象征**人心被转化而完全顺服神**。两者都是上帝的工作。

There, "water" is used to symbolize <u>cleansing from</u> <u>impurity</u>, and "spirit" for <u>the transformation of the heart</u> <u>to full obedience</u>. Both are the work of God.

神**不会<u>月洁净而不转化人心</u>,也不会<u>不洁净人心而要</u> <u>转化人</u>。**

God will not <u>only cleanse and not transform the heart</u>, nor will he <u>not cleanse the heart and transform people</u>.

约 3:8 风随著意思吹,你听见风的响声,却不晓得从那里来,往那里去;凡**从圣灵生的**,也是如此。」

John 3:8 The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.'

约 3:9 尼哥底母问他说: 「怎能有这事呢?」

John 3:9 'How can this be?' Nicodemus asked.

神在人生命里的工作-就是人与神之间的生命关系-人不一定就能完全理解。

God's work in man's life - that is the life relationship between man and God - man may not be able to fully understand it.

假设我们让十对我们不认识、同种族、文化、经济背景、生活环境、年龄接近的夫妻随意混乱的在我们前面站成一排。

Suppose we let ten couples whom we don't know, who are of same race, culture, economic background, living environment, and close in age, all stand randomly in a row in front of us.

我们能够很容易的就猜中他们谁跟谁是夫妻吗? Can we easily pick out who are whose spouse?

人与神生命的关系不容易用肉眼来清楚辨识。

Life relationship between God and man is not easily discernable with the naked eye.

约 3:10 耶稣回答说: 「你是以色列人的先生,还不明白这事吗?

John 3:10 'You are Israel's teacher,' said Jesus, 'and do you not understand these things?

耶稣这句话是要尼哥底母彻底的明白,人不能利用他自己本身的能力、地位、知识,甚至自信心来取代神、神的能力、和他的作为。

These words of Jesus is to help Nicodemus fully realize that man can't use his own strength, status, knowledge, and even self-confidence to replace God, God's power, and his work.

C. 如何能重生 (11-15) How to Be Born Again (11-15)

约 3:11 我实实在在的告诉你,我们所说的是我们知道的;我们所见证的是我们见过的;你们却不领受我们的见证。 12 我对你们说地上的事,你们尚且不信,若说天上的事,如何能信呢?

John 3:11 Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. 12 I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things?

耶稣使用复数代名词"我们"和"你们"来再一次提醒尼哥底母<u>他对神的知识还是不完全的</u>,而且<u>拥有关于神的知识并不等于拥有了与神的关系</u>。

Jesus used the plural pronouns "we" and "you" to remind Nicodemus that <u>his knowledge of</u>
<u>God was still incomplete</u>, and <u>having</u>
<u>knowledge about God does not equal having a</u>
<u>relationship with God</u>.

当耶稣说"我们"时,他是暗示了<u>他与父原为一</u>。所以他才说了第13节的话。

When Jesus said "we", he hinted that <u>he was one with</u> <u>the Father</u>. So he said the words in verse 13.

约 3:13 除了从天降下、仍旧在天的人子,没有人升过天。

John 3:13 No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven – the Son of Man.

还有谁能比耶稣更透彻明白神的能力和神的心呢?

Who else can understand God's power and God's heart more thoroughly than Jesus?

约 3:14 摩西在旷野怎样举蛇,人子也必照样被举起来,15 叫一切信他的都得永生(或作:叫一切信的人在他里面得永生)。

John 3:14 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, 15 that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.'

"被举起"暗指被钉在十字架上。(民 21:4-9)

"lifted up" alludes to being nailed on the cross. (Num 21:4-9)

"人子"暗指基督/弥赛亚-道成肉身的耶稣。

"the Son of Man" implies Christ/Messiah – Jesus' identification with humanity.

"摩西举蛇": 离开埃及在旷野中以色列人叛逆神和埋怨摩西。神差毒蛇进到营中咬他们。后来,神怜悯他们,叫摩西铸一个铜蛇缠在杆上,把铜蛇举起来。神要医治凡是望向铜蛇的人。

"Moses lifted up the snake": Leaving Egypt in the wilderness, the Israelites rebelled against God and complained against Moses. God sent the snake into the camp to bite them. Later, God had mercy on them and asked Moses to cast a bronze snake around a pole and lift the bronze snake up. God would heal everyone who looked to the bronze snake.

耶稣告诉尼哥底母,**人子将要被钉死在十字架** 上,"<u>叫一切信他的都得永生</u>"。

Jesus told Nicodemus that the Son of Man would be crucified, "that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him."

人如何能重生呢? How can a man be born again? 因为尼哥底母愿意夜里来见耶稣,耶稣将答案赐给他:

相信为世人钉十字架的基督

Because Nicodemus was willing to come to Jesus at night, Jesus gave him the answer:

Believe in Christ who would be crucified for the world

尼哥底母是杰出的圣经老师,他明白耶稣的话。

Nicodemus was an outstanding Bible teacher and he understood the words of Jesus.

结语 Conclusion:

我要用两处经文来作结束:

I will end with two passages:

约 7:50-52 John 7:50-52

祭司长和法利赛人派人去捉拿耶稣,那些人被耶稣的教导震慑了,空手回来,被臭骂一顿!

The chief priests and the Pharisees sent people to capture Jesus. Those people were amazed by Jesus' teaching and returned empty-handed, and got a good scolding for it!

就在那时.... Right then....

约7:50 内中有**尼哥底母**,就是从前去见耶稣的,对他们说: 51 「*不先听本人的口供,不知道他所作的事,难道我们的律法还定他的罪吗?*」 52 他们回答说: 「你也是出於加利利吗? 你且去查考,就可知道加利利没有出过先知。」

John 7:50 Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus earlier and who was one of their own number, asked, 51 'Does our law condemn a man without first hearing him to find out what he has been doing?' 52 They replied, 'Are you from Galilee, too? Look into it, and you will find that a prophet does not come out of Galilee.'

约 19:38-39 John 19:38-39

耶稣被安放在坟墓里....

Jesus was placed in the grave...

约 19:38 这些事以後,有亚利马太人约瑟,是耶稣的门徒,只因怕犹太人,就暗暗的作门徒。他来求彼拉多,要把耶稣的身体领去。彼拉多允准,他就把耶稣的身体领去了。

John 19:38 Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jewish leaders. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away.

- 39 又有尼哥底母,就是先前夜里去见耶稣的, 带著没药和沉香,约有一百斤前来。
- 39 He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about thirty-five kilograms.

尼哥底母夜里来见耶稣。后来,他的生命改变了,有神的统管,*他白天里公然的服事神*。

Nicodemus came to see Jesus at night. Later, he had a changed life, with God reigning inside him, he served God openly in broad daylight.

愿神对你说话.....

May God speak to you.....

