### John

## Chapter 3

1Now, there was a man named NicoDemos (he was a Pharisee and a ruler of the Judeans) 2who came to him one night and said:  
  
 ‘Rabbi, we know that you came as a teacher from God, because nobody can perform signs like you’re doing unless God is with him.’  
  
3Then Jesus said:  
  
 ‘I tell you the truth; unless a person is born from above, he can’t see the Kingdom of God.’  
  
4So NicoDemos asked:  
  
 ‘How can a man be born again after he’s old… He can’t go back into his mother’s womb a second time to be born, can he?’  
  
5And Jesus replied:  
  
 ‘I tell you the truth; unless a person is born from water and [God’s] Breath, he can’t enter the Kingdom of God. 6Because, things that have been born from the flesh are fleshly... While things that have been born from the Breath are spiritual.’  
  
 7‘However, don’t be surprised because I told you that people have to be born again… 8For the wind blows wherever it wishes, and although you can hear the noise, you don’t know where it’s coming from or where it’s going… And that’s how it’ll be for everyone who’s been born from the Breath.  
  
9Then NicoDemos asked:  
  
 ‘How can things like this happen?’  
  
10And Jesus replied:  
  
 ‘You’re a teacher of IsraEl, and you don’t know?  
  
 11‘I tell you the truth; we talk about things we know, and we testify to things we’ve seen… Yet you haven’t accepted our testimony. 12So if you don’t believe the earthly things that I’m telling you, how will you believe the heavenly things?  
  
 13‘No one has gone to heaven other than the one who came down from heaven: the Son of Man who’s [now] in heaven. 14And as Moses raised the [sign of the] snake in the desert – that’s how the Son of Man must also be raised... 15So that everyone who believes in him might have age-long life.  
  
 16‘This is how [much] God loved the world:  
  
 ‘He gave His one-and-only Son so that everyone who believes in him might not be destroyed but have age-long life.  
  
 17‘God didn’t send His Son into the world to judge it, but rather, so that the world might be saved through him!  
  
 18‘Therefore, those who believe in [the Son] won’t be condemned, while those who don’t believe have already been condemned... Because they haven’t put faith in the name of God’s one-and-only Son. 19Indeed, this [is the basis] for their judgment!  
  
 ‘Although the light has now entered the world, these men have loved darkness more than the light, because the things that they’re doing are evil.  
  
 20‘For people who do what’s foul hate the light. They don’t come into the light so [that they won’t] be disciplined for the [bad] things they’re doing. 21However, those who do what’s true will come towards the light, so the things they’re doing can be exposed as having been done in God.’  
  
22Well after that, Jesus and his disciples traveled into the Judean countryside, and he spent some time with them, immersing [them].  
  
  
  
23Meanwhile, John was also immersing [people] in Aenon near Salim (because there was a lot of water there), and people kept going out to be immersed [by him], 24since John hadn’t been thrown in prison yet.  
  
25Well, John’s disciples had been arguing about purification with [a certain] Judean.  
  
26And then they went to John and said:  
  
 ‘Rabbi, the man who was with you across the JorDan (the one whom you testified about) is also immersing [people], and now everyone is going to him!’  
  
27And John told them:  
  
 ‘A man can’t have anything unless he receives it [first] from heaven… 28And you’re witnesses that I said I’m not the Anointed One, but that I’ve been sent ahead of him.  
  
 29‘So the one who has the bride is the bridegroom. But his friend, when he stands and listens to him, gains much joy from the voice of the bridegroom.  
  
 ‘Therefore, my joy is now complete! 30For as he increases, I must decrease.  
  
 31‘[Understand that] the one who comes from above is over everything. And while the one who comes from the ground is earthly and talks about earthly things... The one who comes from heaven is over all... 32And he speaks of things that he’s actually seen and heard! Yet, they aren’t accepting his testimony. 33However, those who do welcome his testimony are proving God to be true.  
  
 34‘And since the one who was sent by God speaks God’s words, he doesn’t just measure out [small] portions of [God’s] Breath, 35because the Father loves the Son, and He’s entrusted everything into his hands.  
  
 36‘So those who believe in the Son will have age-long life, while those who disobey him won’t see life at all, because God’s wrath remains upon them.’