

## **A Secret Visit John 3:1-21**

**Intro:** We live in a time (in ecclesiastical circles at least) that has been labeled as having “seeker friendly churches.” That somewhat passé concept has been the identification sticker on different mega-churches and their like. But whether a church has or deserves that label or not, if there were ever a “seeker friendly” event in Scripture, this one about Nicodemus certainly qualifies. The distinction from the current church dynamic, however, is significant for at least two reasons. First, Nicodemus comes seeking Jesus, not a friendly worship environment. Second, he comes seeking the truth about eternal life, not entertainment in the guise of truth-declaration. The entire interaction between Nicodemus and Jesus is given in a dialogue and a discourse.

- I. Nicodemus: Dialogue I (vs. 1, 2)**
  - A. A man of religious significance
  - B. A man of discerning mind
  
- II. Jesus: Dialogue I (vs. 3)**
  - A. The Son of God ignores the flattery
  - B. The Son of God comes right to the point
  
- III. Nicodemus: Dialogue II (vs.4)**
  - A. Born again...how?
  - B. Born again...earthly limitations.
  
- IV. Jesus: Dialogue II (vs. 5-8)**
  - A. Water and Spirit = Word and Spirit
  - B. Flesh = Flesh; Spirit = Spirit
  - C. Still the need of all humanity: You must be born again!
  
- V. Nicodemus: Dialogue III (vs. 9)**

-- The quandary of humanity: I still don't understand...
  
- VI. Jesus: Discourse I (vs. 10-15)**
  - A. The dilemma of being a teacher...
  - B. The difference between earth and heaven...
  - C. Moses provides a key
  
- VII. Jesus: Discourse II (vs. 16-21)**
  - A. God's love for the world!
  - B. God's judgment of the world