

John 3 — Nicodemus in the Dark

John 3 (with John 7:50–52; 19:38–42) · For posting on YouTube & Facebook. Use the overview for the description; add the prompt and links wherever they fit.

VIDEO OVERVIEW (post-ready)

Nicodemus comes to Jesus at night — a ruler of the Jews, a teacher of Israel — and is told he must be “born again” (v.3). He leaves the conversation more puzzled than when he came. But John doesn’t let him disappear. He surfaces again in chapter 7, cautiously reminding his fellow Pharisees that the law gives a man a hearing (7:50–51), and one last time in chapter 19, carrying seventy-five pounds of spices to bury a crucified man in broad daylight (19:39). Was he a true believer, or only intrigued? John seems to want us to watch the man move — from night, toward the light — and to ask the same question of ourselves.

GO DEEPER — STUDY PROMPT FOR VIEWERS

Read the three Nicodemus scenes back to back — **John 3:1–21**, then **7:50–52**, then **19:38–42** — and track what he risks each time. He starts by coming at *night*; where does he end up, and in front of whom? Hold it next to **John 3:19–21** about coming to the light, and decide for yourself: intrigued, or born again?

KEY PASSAGES REFERENCED

Elsewhere in John: 3:1–21 (*you must be born again*) · 3:19–21 (*coming to the light*) · 7:50–52 (*Nicodemus speaks up*) · 12:42–43 (*secret believers who feared the Pharisees*) · 19:38–42 (*the burial*)

Other Gospels: Luke 23:50–53 (*Joseph of Arimathea, his companion at the tomb*)

Rest of Scripture: Ezekiel 36:25–27 (*a new heart and a new spirit — the background to “born again”*)

RESOURCES & FURTHER READING

Nicodemus: Incredulity, Indecision, and Identity

Ryan Currie — The Gospel Coalition (article)

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/nicodemus-incredulity-indecision-identity/>

Traces Nicodemus across John 3, 7, and 19 and argues he finally comes into the open as a believer.

You Must Be Born Again

John MacArthur — Grace to You (sermon)

<https://www.gty.org/sermons/81-97/you-must-be-born-again>

On the new-birth conversation of John 3 and what Jesus meant Nicodemus to understand.