

Jesus and Nicodemus

3 Ἦν δὲ ἄνθρωπος ἐκ τῶν Φαρισαίων,
Νικόδημος ὄνομα αὐτῷ, ἄρχων τῶν
Ἰουδαίων·

2 οὗτος ἦλθεν πρὸς αὐτὸν νυκτὸς καὶ
εἶπεν αὐτῷ, Ῥαββί, οἶδαμεν ὅτι ἀπὸ θεοῦ
ἐλήλυθας διδάσκαλος· οὐδεὶς γὰρ δύναται
ταῦτα τὰ σημεῖα ποιεῖν ἃ σὺ ποιεῖς, ἐὰν
μὴ ἦ ὁ θεὸς μετ' αὐτοῦ.

3 ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, Ἀμὴν
ἀμὴν λέγω σοι, ἐὰν μὴ τις γεννηθῆ
ἄνωθεν, οὐ δύναται ἰδεῖν τὴν βασιλείαν
τοῦ θεοῦ.

4 λέγει πρὸς αὐτὸν [ὁ] Νικόδημος, Πῶς
δύναται ἄνθρωπος γεννηθῆναι γέρων ὢν;
μὴ δύναται εἰς τὴν κοιλίαν τῆς μητρὸς
αὐτοῦ δευτέρον εἰσελθεῖν καὶ γεννηθῆναι;

5 ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς, Ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω σοι,
ἐὰν μὴ τις γεννηθῆ ἔξ ὕδατος καὶ
πνεύματος, οὐ δύναται εἰσελθεῖν εἰς τὴν
βασιλείαν τοῦ θεοῦ.

6 τὸ γεγεννημένον ἐκ τῆς σαρκὸς σὰρξ
ἐστίν, καὶ τὸ γεγεννημένον ἐκ τοῦ
πνεύματος πνευμά ἐστίν.

7 μὴ θαυμάσης ὅτι εἶπόν σοι, Δεῖ ὅμως
γεννηθῆναι ἄνωθεν.

8 τὸ πνεῦμα ὅπου θέλει πνεῖ, καὶ τὴν
φωνὴν αὐτοῦ ἀκούεις, ἀλλ' οὐκ οἶδας
πόθεν ἔρχεται καὶ ποῦ ὑπάγει· οὕτως
ἐστὶν πᾶς ὁ γεγεννημένος ἐκ τοῦ
πνεύματος.

9 ἀπεκρίθη Νικόδημος καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ,
Πῶς δύναται ταῦτα γενέσθαι;

εἰμί- 3-Sg, Impr, Act, Ind, *there was*ἄρχων, οντος, ὁ- M, N, S, ruler, lord, prince NIV: *a member of the Jewish ruling council* NAS: *a ruler of the Jews*ἦλθεν- ἔρχομαι- 3-Sg, Aor, Act, Ind, *he came*νυκτὸς- νύξ, νυκτός, ἡ- F, G, S, *of/by night*εἶπεν- εἶπον- 3-Sg, Aor, Act, Ind, *he said*οἶδαμεν- οἶδα- 1-Pl, Perf, Act, Ind, *we have seen or perceived, hence we know*ἐλήλυθας- ἔρχομαι- 2-Sg, Perf, Act, Ind, *you have come*διδάσκαλος- διδάσκαλος, ου, ὁ- M, N, S, *a teacher (you have come) = you have come as/you are a teacher*δύναται- δύναμαι- 3-S, Pres, Pass, Ind, *he is able/has the power*σημεῖα- σημεῖον, ου, τό- N, P, Acc, *a sign consisting of a wonder or miracle*ποιεῖν- ποιέω- Pres, Act, Inf, *to do*ποιεῖς- ποιέω- 2-S, Pres, Act, Ind, *you do*ἐὰν μὴ- *except, unless*ἦ- εἰμί- 3-Sg, Pres, Act, Sub, *(God) was (with him)*ἀπεκρίθη- ἀποκρίνομαι- 3-S, Aor, Pass, Ind, *he answered*γεννηθῆ- γεννάω- 3-Sg, Aor, Pass, Sub, *(unless) he is born (from above)*ἄνωθεν- adverb *from above* WBC: *can mean "from above" and "again,**anew"; "from above" appears to be meant here see v 31 and note in v. 4*ἰδεῖν- εἶδον- Aor, Act, Inf, *to see, perceive*Πῶς- interrog. particle *how? in what way?*γεννηθῆναι- γεννάω- Aor, Pass, Inf, *to be born*

γέρων- γέρων, οντος, ὁ- M, N, S, *an old man* Hndbk: Obviously, Nicodemus took the word rendered *again* in TEV to mean *again* rather than "from above" (its other possible meaning). How Nicodemus understood the word does not necessarily imply what Jesus meant by it or how John intended it to be understood when used by Jesus in the preceding verse. It is impossible to find in English a word or phrase which would carry the possible double meaning that the word *again* has in verse 3. Since the reply of Nicodemus would sound foolish if Jesus' words were translated "from above" in verse 3, it seems necessary to employ *again* in that verse.

ὢν- εἰμί- M, N, Sg, Pres, Act, Ptc, *being*κοιλίαν- κοιλία, ας, ἡ- F, A, S, *Belly, stomach* here as an organ of reproduction *so womb, uterus*δευτέρον- δεύτερος, α, ον- adv *second*δύναμαι- 3-S, Pres, Pass, Ind, *he is able/has the power*εἰσερχομαι- Aor, Act, Inf, *to enter/go into*γεννάω- N, N, S, Perf, Pass, Ptc, *(the thing) that is born (of flesh is flesh)*θαυμάζω- 2-S, Aor, Act, Sub, *(do not) marvel/wonder (that I said to you)*δεῖ- inf. *it is necessary*ὅπου- conj *where*θέλω- 3-S, Pres, Act, Ind, *(the wind blows where) it wishes*πνέω- 3-S, Pres, Act, Ind, *it blows*φωνή, ἡς, ἡ- F, A, S, *sound (of it)*ἀκούω- 2-S, Pres, Act, Ind, *you hear*οἶδα- 2-S, Perf, Act, Ind, *you have seen or perceived, hence you know*πόθεν- interrog. adv. *from where, from which, whence?*ἔρχομαι- 3-S, Pres, Mid, Ind, *it comes*ποῦ- interrog. adv. of place *where (?) , at which place (?)*ὑπάγω- 3-S, Pres, Act, Ind, *(where) it is going*γεννάω- M, N, S, Perf, Pass, Ptc, *(everyone) the ones born (of the Spirit)*Πῶς- interrog. particle *how? in what way?*γίνομαι- Aor, Mid, Inf, *to come into being, to happen* Lit: *how is it able these things to happen/come into being?* NAS: *How can these things be?*

10 ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, Σὺ εἶ ὁ διδάσκαλος τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ καὶ ταῦτα οὐ γινώσκεις;

11 ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω σοι ὅτι ὃ οἶδαμεν λαλοῦμεν καὶ ὃ ἐωράκαμεν μαρτυροῦμεν, καὶ τὴν μαρτυρίαν ἡμῶν οὐ λαμβάνετε.

12 εἰ τὰ ἐπίγεια εἶπον ὑμῖν καὶ οὐ πιστεύετε, πῶς ἐὰν εἴπω ὑμῖν τὰ ἐπουράνια πιστεύσετε;

13 καὶ οὐδεὶς ἀναβέβηκεν εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν εἰ μὴ ὁ ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ καταβάς, ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου.

14 καὶ καθὼς Μωϋσῆς ὕψωσεν τὸν ὄφιν ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ, οὕτως ὕψωθῆναι δεῖ τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου,

15 ἵνα πᾶς ὁ πιστεύων ἐν αὐτῷ ἔχῃ ζωὴν αἰώνιον.

16 Οὕτως γὰρ ἠγάπησεν ὁ θεὸς τὸν κόσμον, ὥστε τὸν υἱὸν τὸν μονογενῆ ἔδωκεν, ἵνα πᾶς ὁ πιστεύων εἰς αὐτὸν μὴ ἀπόληται ἀλλ' ἔχῃ ζωὴν αἰώνιον.

17 οὐ γὰρ ἀπέστειλεν ὁ θεὸς τὸν υἱὸν εἰς τὸν κόσμον ἵνα κρίνῃ τὸν κόσμον, ἀλλ' ἵνα σωθῆ ὁ κόσμος δι' αὐτοῦ.

18 ὁ πιστεύων εἰς αὐτὸν οὐ κρίνεται· ὁ δὲ μὴ πιστεύων ἤδη κέκριται, ὅτι μὴ πεπίστευκεν εἰς τὸ ὄνομα τοῦ μονογενοῦς υἱοῦ τοῦ θεοῦ.

19 αὕτη δέ ἐστιν ἡ κρίσις ὅτι τὸ φῶς ἐλήλυθεν εἰς τὸν κόσμον καὶ ἠγάπησαν οἱ ἄνθρωποι μᾶλλον τὸ σκότος ἢ τὸ φῶς· ἦν γὰρ αὐτῶν πονηρὰ τὰ ἔργα.

20 πᾶς γὰρ ὁ φαῦλα πράσων μισεῖ τὸ φῶς καὶ οὐκ ἔρχεται πρὸς τὸ φῶς, ἵνα μὴ ἐλεγχθῆ τὰ ἔργα αὐτοῦ.

21 ὁ δὲ ποιῶν τὴν ἀλήθειαν ἔρχεται πρὸς τὸ φῶς, ἵνα φανερωθῆ αὐτοῦ τὰ ἔργα ὅτι ἐν θεῷ ἐστιν εἰργασμένα.

διδάσκαλος, ου, ὁ- M,N,S, (you are) the teacher (of Israel) γινώσκω- 2-S,Pres,Act,Ind, 3. (And these things you do not) understand/comprehend?

οἶδα- 1-P,Perf,Act,Ind, (that which) we know
λαλέω- 1-P,Pres,Act,Ind, we are saying
ὄραω- 1-P,Pres,Act,Ind, (also that which) we have seen
μαρτυρέω- 1-P,Pres,Act,Ind, we are bearing witness, testifying to
μαρτυρία, ας, ἡ- F,A,S, (but our) testimony
λαμβάνω- 2-P,Pres,Act,Ind, you are (not) receiving
ἐπίγειος, ον- adj N,A,P, (if) the earthly things
εἶπον- 1-S,Aor,Act,Ind, I said (to you)
πιστεύω- 2-P,Pres,Act,Ind, you (do not) believe
εἶπον- 1-S,Aor,Act,Sub, (how if) I said (to you)
ἐπουράνιος, ον- adj N,A,P, heavenly things

ἀναβαίνω- 3-S,Perf,Act,Ind, (and no one) has ascended
καταβαίνω- M,N,S,Aor,Act,Ptc, the one who has descended (from heaven)

ὕψω- 3-S,Aor,Act,Ind, (and just as Moses) lifted up
ὄφις, εως, ὁ- M,A,S, the snake, serpent (in the wilderness)
ὕψόω- Aor,Pass,Inf, (in this manner, thus, so) to be lifted up
δεῖ- 3-S,Pres,Act,Ind, it is necessary ([for] the Son of Man)
πιστεύω- M,N,S,Pres,Act,Ptc, (all) the ones who believe (in him)
ἔχω- 3-S,Pres,Act,Sub, he might have (life eternal)

ἀγαπάω- 3-S,Aor,Act,Ind, (For in this way God) loved (the world)
μονογενής, ἐς- M,A,S, only, unique here only begotten (son)
δίδωμι- 3-S,Aor,Act,Ind, he gave
πιστεύω- M,N,S,Pres,Act,Ptc, (that all) the ones believing (in Him)
ἀπόλλυμι- 3-S,Aor,Mid,Sub, shall not be destroyed, perish
ἔχω- 3-S,Pres,Act,Sub, (but) he might have (eternal life)
ἀποστέλλω- 3-S,Aor,Act,Ind, (for God did not) send
κρίνω- 3-S,Aor,Act,Sub, (that) he might judge, condemn
σῶζω- 3-S,Aor,Pass,Sub, (but that) it might be saved

πιστεύω- M,N,S,Pres,Act,Ptc, the one who believes (in Him)
κρίνω- 3-S,Pres,Pass,Ind, he is (not) judged, condemned; 3-S,Perf,Pass,Ind, is already judged, condemned NIV: stands condemned already
πιστεύω- 3-S,Perf,Act,Ind, (for) he has (not) believed
μονογενής, ἐς- adj M,G,S, one and only, unique (in kind) NAS: only begotten Son; NIV: only Son

κρίσις, εως, ἡ- F,N,S, (and this is) the judgment
ἔρχομαι- 3-S,Perf,Act,Ind, (that the light) has come NIV: this is the verdict: light has come into the world

ἀγαπάω- 3-S,Aor,Act,Ind, (but men) loved (rather the darkness than the light)
εἰμί- 3-S,Impf,Act,Ind, (for their works) it was [were] (evil)

φαῦλος, η, ον- adj N,A,P, pert. to being low-grade or morally substandard, base [things] here mng evil

πράσσω- M,N,S,Pres,Act,Ptc, doing ὁ φαῦλα πράσων NAS/NIV: everyone who does evil

μισέω- 3-S,Pres,Act,Ind, he hates (the light)

ἔρχομαι- 3-S,Pres,Mid,Ind, (and) he is (not) coming (into the light) NAS: does not come NIV: will not come

ἐλέγχο- 3-S,Aor,Pass,Sub, lit: (in order that his evil works) might (not) be exposed, brought to light NAS/NIV: for fear that his deeds will be exposed

ποιέω- M,N,S,Pres,Act,Ptc, (but) the one who does (the truth)

ἔρχομαι- 3-S,Pres,Mid,Ind, he comes (to the light)

φανερόω- 3-S,Aor,Pass,Sub, revealed, made known NAS: may be manifested NIV: may be seen plainly

ἐργάζομαι- N,N,P,Perf,Pass,Ptc, (that in God it is) they have been worked NAS: as having been wrought by God NIV: has been done through God