

# 4 Illustrations of Salvation - Part 1

## John 3: 1 – 21

Introduction:

Jesus did many miracles in Jerusalem.

The signs that Jesus did really made Nicodemus interested to find out more about Jesus.

Nicodemus was a teacher of the Jews but he had respect for the \_\_\_\_\_ from Galilee.

He may have come representing a group of Pharisees because he said in addressing Jesus “\_\_\_\_\_ know that you are a teacher sent by God”.

In order to instruct Nicodemus in the basics of salvation, our Lord used four very different illustrations.

**The first illustration Jesus uses is \_\_\_\_\_ (John 3:3-7).**

### **I. Birth is a \_\_\_\_\_ Experience.**

A. Jesus said that we must be born again. This is a birth from above.

B. Though all human beings have experienced natural birth on earth, if they want to go to heaven, they must experience a \_\_\_\_\_ spiritual birth from above.

### **II. Another Case of Spiritual Misunderstanding**

A. Once again in John’s gospel, we meet with the spiritual blindness of sinners: this well –educated religious leader, Nicodemus, did not understand what the Savior was talking about!

B. Jesus was talking about a \_\_\_\_\_ birth, but Nicodemus thought only of a \_\_\_\_\_ birth.

### **III. Jesus – The Expert Teacher**

A. Jesus was a patient teacher and he used what Nicodemus said to further explain the new birth.

B. To be born again means to be born of the Spirit.

C. The \_\_\_\_\_ of God takes the \_\_\_\_\_ of God and, when the sinner \_\_\_\_\_, imparts the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

### **IV. There are several things involved in birth, both spiritual and physical.**

A. **Birth involves suffering \_\_\_\_\_.**  
1 Corinthians 4:15, Galatians 4:19.

- B. In birth the child inherits the \_\_\_\_\_ of the parents.**
1. As a child of God we become “partakers of the divine Nature” – 2 Peter 1:4.
  2. Nature determines appetite, which explains why the Christian has an appetite for the things of God.
- C. Birth involves \_\_\_\_\_: and spiritual birth from above involves God’s \_\_\_\_\_.**
1. You do not manufacture Christians anymore than you manufacture babies!
- D. Birth involves a \_\_\_\_\_, and we are “born again to a living hope.”**
1. I Peter 1:3
  2. When you are born again into God’s family, your sins are forgiven and forgotten, and your \_\_\_\_\_ is bright with a living hope.

Conclusion:

Nicodemus must have had a \_\_\_\_\_ look on his face!  
verse 7

Nicodemus was a Jew, he was a righteous man, a faithful Pharisee. Just as it is true that the dirtiest drunkard needs to be born again so even the most self- righteous, religious person needs to be born from above.