

## Outline – November 26, 2023

### John 3:1-18

#### Why Do So Many Miss Christmas?

- I. **The universal dilemma of many when it comes to Christmas**
  - A. I don't understand it
    - 1. So I/we secularize it
    - 2. I go through the motions of it
    - 3. I debate it
  - B. You can't understand Christmas until you understand the love of God and the re-birth
    - 1. God loves you too much to leave us as we are
- II. **The example of Nicodemus**
  - A. His story is similar to our story
  - B. A Pharisee, member of Sanhedrin
  - C. He wanted to know more
  - D. He knew something was happening
  - E. He had heard about Jesus teachings and miracles
  - F. His friends didn't believe
  - G. He wanted to figure it out
    - 1. Maybe for his own understanding
    - 2. Maybe for his own mortality
    - 3. He realizes no one like Jesus
      - a. Miracles
      - b. Teaching
      - c. Claims
- III. **The essentials of Nicodemus**
  - A. He cared
    - 1. About his beliefs
    - 2. About his teaching
    - 3. About his mortality
    - 4. About his people
  - B. He was confused
    - 1. His peers didn't believe
    - 2. Yet he couldn't escape the words and works of Jesus

3. He had questions
    - a. Born of Spirit
    - b. Born of flesh
    - c. How can you know?
  4. Jesus uses wind as an illustration
- C. Communicate how salvation works
1. Numbers 21
  2. People complaining, contempt, critical
  3. God sent vipers
  4. God told Moses make a bronze serpent
  5. Those who looked lived
  6. Jesus explained this is how salvation works
- D. Conviction
1. Convinced
  2. Things make sense
  3. It all points to Jesus
- E. Conversion
1. God so loved
  2. He gave
  3. His only begotten Son
  4. Whosoever believes
  5. Doesn't perish
  6. Has eternal life
- F. The confidence
1. It's a free gift
- IV. The essential question**
- A. Have you received the gift?
  - B. You will never truly know Christmas until you receive the gift

**Gift Of God Is Eternal Life  
That Is The Root Of Our Faith**