

**Outline - May 21, 2023**  
**John 3:1-8, 14-18; Romans 3:19-26**  
**Life's Too Short to Miss the Real Thing**

**I. We Have a Problem**

- A. Life is too short
  - 1. Death is coming
  - 2. Hoofbeats are approaching
- B. The Reason: Sin
  - 1. Our sin
  - 2. Wages of sin is death

**II. What is the Solution**

- A. Some Choose Religion
  - 1. Religion is about your performance
  - 2. People who try to be "perfect" drive themselves crazy and those around them
  - 3. Others give up
  - 4. In a performance-based relationship you eventually fail
  - 5. It becomes joyless, cheerless

**III. The Solution Jesus Offers**

- A. The New Birth (Born Again)
- B. Believing in Him
  - 1. Trusting in what He did for us
- C. This Was the Message to Nicodemus
  - 1. To see the Kingdom of God
  - 2. To know God
  - 3. Must be born again
- D. Nicodemus Had a Problem
  - 1. He thought his resume was enough
    - i. Teacher of the law
    - ii. Ruler of the Jewish elite
    - iii. Member of Sanhedrim
    - iv. Moral excellence
  - 2. Jesus reminded him, you must be born again
  - 3. He did not know how sinful he was or how holy God is
  - 4. He did not understand the new birth (at first)
  - 5. He wanted to know, he sought answers

**IV. The Divine Imperative**

- A. Spirit of God and Word of God Does a Work on Our Life

- B. Faith in Messiah Sparks the Birth
- C. Brings Us Into Heaven and Brings Heaven Into Us
- D. It Brings Life Into Our Spirit
- E. We Become New Creatures
- F. A New Commitment is Formed
- G. A New Life with New Hopes, Dreams, Desires Begins

**V. Symptoms Of a New Birth**

- A. A Growing Love for Jesus
- B. A Desire for What is Scripturally Right
- C. Spirit of God Leading Us Into New Areas of Life and Revealing Truth
  - a. We speak truth
  - b. We appreciate grace
- D. A Concern When Fellowship with God is Broken
- E. A Desire to Share Jesus' Life, Hope, Gospel
- F. A Desire to Seek His Will
- G. An Assurance and Confidence of Heaven

**VI. Reasons to Believe in New Birth**

- A. Jesus Declared It
- B. Billions Have Experienced It
- C. I/We Have Seen It
- D. Today You Can Live It

**There is a New Life, A New Beginning in Jesus Name**