

## He Regenerates | John 3:1-7

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'

There can be no union with Christ apart from the person and work of the Holy Spirit.

### What is regeneration?

→ A work of the Holy Spirit where the heart and nature of man is changed

- "And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules." (Ezekiel 36:26-27)

### The necessity for regeneration

#### 1. Salvation;

- "But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life." (Titus 3:4-7)

#### 2. Spiritually Dead

- "And you were dead in the trespasses and sins..." (Ephesians 2:1)

### Evidence of regeneration

1. A love for Jesus (1 John 5:1);

2. A love for the Word of God (Psalm 1:1-6);

3. A love for disciples of Jesus and making disciples of Jesus (John 13:34-35);

4. Fighting sin (Romans 8:13);

5. Confession and repentance (2 Corinthians 7:9-10);

6. The pursuit of holiness (1 Peter 1:13);