

ANALYSIS:

1. Why was Nicodemus convinced that Jesus was “a teacher come from God”? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What two spiritual limitations do all people face unless they are born again? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What physical fact of nature did Jesus use to illustrate the unseen work of the Spirit of God when a person is born again? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What are some reasons some people hate the light (Jesus), while others come to the light? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How did John the Baptist describe his relationship to Jesus and how he felt toward Him? \_\_\_\_\_

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

The “New Birth” Jesus speaks of is not a figure of speech, but is an actual reality when the Spirit of God imparts eternal life to one of God's elect. While the evidence of being “born again” is seen in faith and good works, the time and place is hidden from man's eyes as is the movement of the wind. This work of the Spirit is also called being “quickenened” (Eph 2:1; John 5:21), “regeneration” (Tit 3:5) and is referred to as a resurrection (Col 3:1). Each one of these terms by itself shows that man is passive, that is, he cannot do anything to bring about his new birth. Taken together they prove beyond any question that God in free and sovereign grace saves whom He wills to eternal salvation. Praise ye the LORD! While we rejoice in the fact God does all the saving in eternal salvation, we remember that He commands us to live a life of good works that glorifies Him today. “Work out you own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure” (Phil 2:12-13). “That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work” (Col 1:10). “Now the God of peace ... make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen” (Hew 13:20-21). How can you and I improve our good works today to honor our Heavenly Father? (Matt 5:16).

HELP:

1. Nicodemus said, “No man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him” (v 2).
2. They cannot see and they cannot enter into the kingdom of God (vs 3, 5).
3. The blowing wind which we can hear, but we cannot tell where it comes from nor where it is going (v 8).
4. Those who do evil hate the light because their deeds are evil. Those doing truth come to the light because their deeds are wrought in God (vs 19-21).
5. John considered himself to be the friend of the bridegroom (Jesus), and he rejoiced to serve and hear Jesus. Of Jesus he said, “He must increase, but I must decrease” (vs 29-30).