

“The Last Words of Jesus” Pt. 5
Moving Toward Easter – Wk 5
John 3:1-21;19:30

April 12th, 2020

Pastor Jim Laxson

Imagine “Choices!” – our lives are filled with them – daily, moment by moment . . . some we think about, some are the product of habits. All can change the trajectory of our lives toward good or bad. Choices . . . Jim Elliot, a missionary who was martyred in Ecuador in the 1950’s said, “He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain something he cannot lose.” . . . Choices . . .

Context: Jesus has recently begun His earthly ministry with His 1st miracle at a wedding in Cana of Galilee. From there He has traveled up to Capernaum (@18mi) and then to Jerusalem (@75 mi) where Jesus clears out the temple. Nicodemus come to Jesus by night . . .

John 3:1-21

Nicodemus comes to Jesus to explore “Who this Jesus is?”

✓ Nic has his “questions” he’s gonna ask:

- ✓ Jesus derails Nic
 - You must be born again
 - Noc: “Huh, wha’?”


Born of water and the Spirit

Water >

Spirit >

[1 Corinthians 2:14,15 “But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised. ¹⁵ But he who is spiritual appraises all things, . . .”]

Just as Jesus has “upset the Temple”, so now, Nicodemus’ faith paradigm is upset.

After having listened to or watched the video referenced in this sermon, please take a moment and jot down some of your impressions about Nicodemus and his monologue. 

Are there any ways in which you identify with Nicodemus?

John 1:11-13

He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him. ¹² But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

“There Is A Story . . .

. . . it comes down to _____.

“When Jesus therefore received the sour wine, He said,
‘It is finished!’
And He bowed His head, and gave up His spirit.”

What part of this passage “caught your attention”?

Is God saying something to you? What is it?

How will you respond?