**John 3.1-21** [mgvhoffman](http://www.CrossMarks.com) translation

1 Now there was a man from the Pharisees—

Nicodemus was his name, a member of the Jewish ruling council.

2 He came to Jesus by night and said to him,

“Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God,

for no one is able to do the signs that you are doing unless God is with them.”

3 Jesus replied and said to him,

“I am telling you the solemn truth, unless someone is born *[again] from above*,

they are not able to perceive the dominion of God.”

4 Nicodemus says to him,

“How is a person able to be born after they’ve become old?

It’s not possible to enter into their mother’s womb a second time and be born, is it?”

5 Jesus replied,

“I am telling you the solemn truth, unless someone is born of water and Spirit,

they are not able to enter into the dominion of God.

6 What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.  
7 Don’t be astonished that I told you,

‘It is necessary that you [all] be born *[again]* *from above*.’

8 The *Spirit [wind]* blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it,

but you don’t know where it’s coming from and where it’s going.

So it is for everyone who has been born of the Spirit.”

9 Nicodemus replied and said to him,

“How are these things possible?”

10 Jesus replied and said to him,

“You, you are the teacher of Israel, and you don’t understand these things?

11 I am telling you *(sg)* the solemn truth:

what we know, that’s what we are talking about,

and what we have seen, that’s what we are testifying to,

and you [people] are not accepting our testimony.

12 If I told you [all] about earthly things and you are not believing,

how are you [all] going to believe if I should tell you about heavenly things?

13 And no one has ascended into heaven

except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Humanity.

14 And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness,

likewise, it is necessary that the Son of Humanity be lifted up,

15 in order that everyone who is believing in him   
 may be experiencing eternal life.

16 For in this way God demonstrated love for the world:

God gave the one and only Son,

so that everyone who is believing in him

may not perish

but may be experiencing eternal life.

17 For God did not send the Son into the world in order to condemn the world,

but in order that the world might be saved through him.

18 The one who is believing in him is not being condemned.

But the one who is not believing has already been condemned,

because they have not believed in the name of the one and only Son of God.

19 Now this is why there is condemnation:

Because the Light has come into the world,

and people loved darkness rather than the Light,

for their deeds were evil.

20 For everyone who makes a practice of doing what is wrong

is hating the Light and is not coming to the Light,

so that their deeds might not be exposed.

21 But the one who makes a practice of doing what is the Truth

is coming to the Light,

so that their deeds may be revealed,

because they have been done in God.