

The Man Who Had It All

And Knew It Wasn't Enough!

TEXT: John 3: 1-18 (How Poorly I've Read Nicodemus!)

1. THE MAN: (Appears 3 Times In The Bible: (Romans 7: 50; 19: 39) His Character:

- A. "Ruler" (A Man Of High Authority) Accustomed To Being Sought; Not Seeking!
- B. Man Of Convictions (Sanhedrin); religious! broad-minded ? **NO!** (rigid dogmatism)
- C. Man Of Honor (The Law - John 7: 50)
- D. Something Was Missing! He Was Completely Lost!

2. THE INQUIRY:

- A. Based upon hard evidence (the miracles) "We **KNOW**"... he had seen Christ minister. (Going to take more than **SIGHT**, Romans 10: 17 - needed to **HEAR** the truth!)
- B. Was considerate of Christ's position ("night")
- C. His question: "What has God sent you to tell us?"

3. CHRIST'S ANSWER: (to the point..."Except"...) and Christ **HAS** the answer!...

- A. Considerate of Nicodemus' circumstances (time & heart desperate For The Truth!)
- B. Total Authority (truth transcends tradition! the gospel!)
 - 1. All men lost & separated from God no such relationship as "Abba" (Daddy)
 - 2. No restoration without regeneration - "Ye must be born again"
 - 3. Flesh has no part whatsoever! "Good works" **GONE!**
 - 4. No forgiveness apart from justice! ("death for sin"!)
 - 5. Christ alone our Substitute ("Moses"): Only Begotten Son
 - 6. Eternal life God's love-gift!
 - 7. Accepted by faith alone

4. NICODEMUS' MEMORIAL (John 19: 39): Wherever the gospel is preached, He is one of two men that will forever be held in highest esteem by those who love the Lord Jesus.

- A. Courage! Could have lost his life simply by asking!
- B. Loving-kindness (one hundred pounds!)

DO YOU HAVE THAT RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST THAT IS ENOUGH?