

Jesus continues: Now I'm going to speak to you plainly and seriously. One can only speak and testify from true knowledge and experience. This is what I am doing, speaking first of common, everyday experience and then comparing that to spiritual truth. You have trouble with the former and cannot grasp the latter.

Now I'm going to stretch your mind even more. No one knows about heaven except the Son of Man who comes from there. The Son of Man must also return to heaven after having been lifted up like MOses lifted the serpent in the wilderness.

Narrator: As Jesus expected, Nicodemus is still somewhat baffled. How can the Spirit, unseen as the wind, touch a person's life and make it new? I will add some comments to make it easier to understand.

God has great love for you, for all people and for all the creation. God wants you to know how to have the peace and joy of an ongoing and everlasting relationship with God, the creator and sustainer of the universe. This is called eternal life or entering the kingdom of God or being adopted as a child of God.

God is not a cruel king or a harsh parent who seeks reasons and means to punish you; God sent the Son in order to teach and help and guide and save you. The only way to lose this gift is to refuse it by refusing to believe what has happened.

You have read about Jesus as a light shining^{ing} in the night. Who would not, if stumbling in darkness, rejoice to see the light and be helped and guided by it? There are some who believe that their acts should be hidden in darkness. These people will reject, fear, hate, even try to destroy the light because their acts would be exposed. But the person who wants to live a life of truthfulness and openness will come to the light and see it as coming from God.

We will have more to say about these things. What happened to Nicodemus? I will tell you later.

VII Next time: JOHN C 4. Jesus and the foreign woman.

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