

speaking of receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit into our lives. Jesus is the giver. It is free, come admitting your need, that what you are is just not good enough. The bible calls it repentance, saying sorry for what we have done wrong in our lives and for not trusting God so far, receiving forgiveness from Him and having all the 'wrongness' taken away. Then when we are free of all that was against God in our lives, we receive Jesus Christ, we receive the Spirit of God. We are changed, we are born again, we enter the kingdom of God, we see the kingdom of God and suddenly we understand that God has always loved us. He loves us now and we can continue in His love all our lives.

Jesus prayed that the love that God the Father had from Him would be in us. The love that made Jesus what He was in us. In the end, Jesus says to Nicodemus what has become the most well known verse in the bible "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes on Him should not perish but have everlasting life "Whosoever" means just that- whosoever will.

You can receive the Lord Jesus today and know the wonderful change in your life that Jesus promised.

For help and advice you can email on

[contact@revivalUK.org.uk](mailto:contact@revivalUK.org.uk)

## Prayer for Salvation

You can pray this prayer from the heart if you know you need the Lord Jesus as your own Saviour. He will faithfully answer your prayer because He loves

Dear Lord Jesus

Thank you for helping me when I could not help myself. . I confess to you that I have sinned and done things against the will of God. Please forgive me and cleanse me from all my sin. Please come into my heart and change me so that I can truly serve you for the rest of my life. I realise that without you I have no hope in this world but that with you I have eternal life Lord Jesus thank you. I now belong to you and I rejoice in you as my Saviour and can now truly call you Lord. Amen

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TURNING THE NATION  
BACK TO JESUS

“ BORN  
AGAIN ”



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## “Born Again”

We hear this phrase used often describing someone who has made an amazing recovery or started something new in their life. “Born again bikers”, for example, are meant to be older men and maybe women who once rode motor bikes in their youth who take up riding again in their 50’s or 60’s. The phrase originally comes from the bible so lets have a look and see what it really means.

In the gospel of John a highly educated and knowledgeable man, Nicodemus, comes to Jesus with some questions. “How do you do the miracles you do? There is something very different about you, what is it?”

Jesus does not answer the question in the way Nicodemus was expecting but told him that “he must be born again if he was to see the things of the kingdom of God”. Jesus obviously knew how the miracles had happened and wanted to show Nicodemus something even more wonderful.

Poor Nicodemus did not understand, “Have I got to go back inside my mothers womb?” He only saw things from a natural point of view. Jesus then tells him he needs to be born of the Spirit of God if he is to enter the kingdom of God. (One can of course only see the kingdom when one has entered into it). A spiritual rebirth was needed. “That which is born of the flesh is flesh and that which is born of the Spirit is Spirit” Jesus tells him.

Jesus, after his resurrection, also talked to the apostle Peter about being born again. Jesus used the words ‘when you are converted’. Vehicles, for example, can be converted to run on alternative fuels. The source of their power is different.

The problem for Nicodemus was that what he was by his natural birth was just not good enough. Jesus’ life and work was because he was born of the Spirit of God. “Nicodemus you have got to be like me spiritually, then you will understand how to live and how to serve God.”

All of us need to realise that what we are naturally is just not good enough. Paul the apostle another highly educated religious man came to the conclusion that there was nothing good in him. He needed help to change. Then he rejoiced that God had provided a way for Him to change.

He uses a complicated, but carefully written phrase to describe what God had done for him. “The law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death”. When Paul received the Lord Jesus a new spiritual law, principle if you like, had entered into his life and it had made him free of the old spiritual law that had operated in his life before Jesus changed him. He had been born again. He was free from what he was and ‘walked in a newness of life’. This is the same experience that Jesus was telling Nicodemus about, a new spiritual start, a new birth; no need to go back inside your mother but rather a need to receive

Me says the Lord Jesus into your life.

The joy is that this change is available to all of us. When Jesus died on the cross He made this new birth possible for us all. The bible says “God was in Christ Jesus reconciling the whole world to Himself”, a difficult phrase but that is exactly what happened.

How do we receive the Lord Jesus? That is the question maybe that Nicodemus should have asked, possibly wanted to ask in the first place. Maybe he was just too afraid to ask and that’s why he asked the question he did. He obviously realised he needed to change knowing that he was just not good enough and Jesus was so different. He had never met anyone like Him before.

That is where we all start, by realising that however good, clever, educated, rich, famous and so on we are, or think we are, it is just not good enough. We need Jesus to change us. He is the one with the life, the spiritual life we all need. Nicodemus understood that, so he came to Jesus, the one person who had the life he needed and wanted.

On another day, at the end of a feast time in Israel. Jesus shouted out, “If anyone is thirsty”. Crazy, since you would think they had all just gorged themselves and couldn’t be thirsty or hungry for anything. But it is a spiritual thirst, a spiritual hunger. Does everything in this world leave you empty? Jesus said “If you are thirsty come to me and drink”. Jesus was