

## John 2:13-25

**13** <sup>1</sup>The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus <sup>2</sup>went up to Jerusalem. **14** <sup>3</sup>In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. **15** And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. **16** And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make <sup>4</sup>my Father's house a house of trade." **17** His disciples remembered that it was written, <sup>5</sup>"Zeal for your house will consume me." **18** So the Jews said to him, <sup>6</sup>"What sign do you show us for doing these things?" **19** Jesus answered them, <sup>7</sup>"Destroy this temple, and in three days <sup>8</sup>I will raise it up." **20** The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" **21** But he was speaking about <sup>9</sup>the temple of his body. **22** When therefore he was raised from the dead, <sup>10</sup>his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed <sup>11</sup>the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken. **23** Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name <sup>12</sup>when they saw the signs that he was doing. **24** But Jesus <sup>13</sup>on his part did not entrust himself to them, because <sup>14</sup>he knew all people **25** and needed no one to bear witness about man, for <sup>15</sup>he himself knew what was in man.

### *Cross References*

1. John 2:13 - ch. 11:55; See ch. 6:4
2. John 2:13 - ver. 23; Deut. 16:1-6; Luke 2:41
3. John 2:14 - For ver. 14-17, [Matt. 21:12, 13; Mark 11:15-17; Luke 19:45, 46, with Mal. 3:1-3]
4. John 2:16 - [ch. 14:2; Luke 2:49]
5. John 2:17 - Cited from Ps. 69:9
6. John 2:18 - ch. 4:48; 6:30; [Ex. 4:1, 8; 7:9]; See Matt. 12:38
7. John 2:19 - [Matt. 26:61; 27:40; Mark 14:58; 15:29]
8. John 2:19 - ch. 10:18
9. John 2:21 - [ch. 1:14; 1 Cor. 6:19; Col. 2:9]
10. John 2:22 - ch. 12:16; Luke 24:8
11. John 2:22 - ch. 20:9; Ps. 16:10
12. John 2:23 - ch. 11:45
13. John 2:24 - [ch. 6:14, 15]

14. John 2:24 - ch. 1:48; 5:42; 16:30; [ch. 6:61, 64]; See Matt. 9:4

15. John 2:25 - [See ver. 24 above]



## Day Two – *Observations*

Read John 2:13-25. Let's consider what **observations** can be made from these verses.

1. Focusing on verses 13-16:
  - a. Where did these events take place?
  - b. What do you know about the timing?
  - c. What did Jesus do?
  - d. What did Jesus say?
  - e. To whom did He say it, specifically?
  
2. Focusing on verses 17-25:
  - a. Who was with Jesus?
  - b. What two things does John say that the disciples “remembered”?
  - c. What was the affect of Jesus’ ministry in Jerusalem on the people?
  - d. What was the affect of Jesus’ ministry in Jerusalem on Jesus?
  
3. Are there details left out of this narrative that cause you to be curious?

What questions do you have from the narrative?





### **Day Five – Application**

Read John 2:13-25. How do these verses **apply** to our lives and to the church today?

1. What does this text tell you about Jesus? (think about what is explicitly said and what is *inferred*)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How does Jesus' *zeal* for His Father's house resonate with you? Do you share His zeal?

What *competes* for your *zeal* as you think about church and worship?

3. What are the various responses to the Son of God that you see in this passage?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. This text does not list the "signs" that Jesus did here, but John does tell us that people believed because of the signs. What signs have you seen this week that remind you that Jesus is the Son of God?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Do you have questions after having studied these verses? Make a note of them and keep them in mind as you study & discuss this passage with your small group.

## John 3:1-21

**1** Now there was a man of the Pharisees named <sup>1</sup>Nicodemus, <sup>2</sup>a ruler of the Jews. **2** This man came to Jesus<sup>3</sup> by night and said to him, <sup>4</sup>"Rabbi, <sup>5</sup>we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do <sup>6</sup>unless God is with him." **3** Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is <sup>7</sup>born <sup>8</sup>again he cannot <sup>9</sup>see the kingdom of God." **4** Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" **5** Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born <sup>10</sup>of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. **6** <sup>11</sup>That which is born of the flesh is <sup>12</sup>flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. **7** <sup>13</sup>Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born <sup>14</sup>again.' **8** <sup>15</sup>The wind blows <sup>16</sup>where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." **9** Nicodemus said to him, <sup>17</sup>"How can these things be?" **10** Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel <sup>18</sup>and yet you do not understand these things? **11** Truly, truly, I say to you, <sup>19</sup>we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but <sup>20</sup>you do not receive our testimony. **12** If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? **13** <sup>21</sup>No one has <sup>22</sup>ascended into heaven except <sup>23</sup>he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. **14** And <sup>24</sup>as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man <sup>25</sup>be lifted up, **15** that whoever believes <sup>26</sup>in him <sup>27</sup>may have eternal life. **16** "For <sup>28</sup>God so loved <sup>29</sup>the world, <sup>30</sup>that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not <sup>31</sup>perish but have eternal life. **17** For <sup>32</sup>God did not send his Son into the world <sup>33</sup>to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. **18** <sup>34</sup>Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not <sup>35</sup>believed in the name of the only Son of God. **19** <sup>36</sup>And this is the judgment: <sup>37</sup>the light has come into the world, and <sup>38</sup>people loved the darkness rather than the light because <sup>39</sup>their works were evil. **20** <sup>40</sup>For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, <sup>41</sup>lest his works should be exposed. **21** But whoever <sup>42</sup>does what is true <sup>43</sup>comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

### ***Cross References***

1. John 3:1 - ch. 7:50; 19:39
2. John 3:1 - See Luke 24:20
3. John 3:2 - [ch. 12:42]
4. John 3:2 - See ch. 1:38
5. John 3:2 - [ch. 9:29; Matt. 22:16]

6. John 3:2 - Acts 10:38; [ch. 5:36; 9:33; Acts 2:22]
7. John 3:3 - See ch. 1:13
8. John 3:3 - [2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 6:15; 1 Pet. 1:3, 23]
9. John 3:3 - ver. 36
10. John 3:5 - [Ezek. 36:25-27; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Eph. 5:26; Titus 3:5; Heb. 10:22]
11. John 3:6 - 1 Cor. 15:50
12. John 3:6 - ch. 6:63
13. John 3:7 - ch. 5:28
14. John 3:7 - See ver. 3
15. John 3:8 - [Eccles. 11:5; Ezek. 37:9]
16. John 3:8 - 1 Cor. 12:11
17. John 3:9 - ch. 6:52, 60
18. John 3:10 - [ch. 9:30]
19. John 3:11 - See ver. 32
20. John 3:11 - See ver. 32
21. John 3:13 - Prov. 30:4; [Acts 2:34; Eph. 4:9]
22. John 3:13 - [ch. 7:34]
23. John 3:13 - ver. 31; ch. 6:38, 42, 62; 1 Cor. 15:47; [Rom. 10:6]
24. John 3:14 - Num. 21:9
25. John 3:14 - ch. 8:28; 12:32, 34
26. John 3:15 - [ch. 15:4; 16:33; 1 John 5:12, 20]
27. John 3:15 - ver. 36
28. John 3:16 - Rom. 5:8; Eph. 2:4; 2 Thess. 2:16; 1 John 3:1; 4:9, 10
29. John 3:16 - See ch. 1:29
30. John 3:16 - Rom. 8:32
31. John 3:16 - ch. 10:28
32. John 3:17 - ch. 5:36, 38; 6:29, 57; 7:29; 8:42; 10:36; 11:42; 17:3; 20:21; Rom. 8:3; 1 John 4:9, 10, 14
33. John 3:17 - ch. 5:45; 8:15; 12:47
34. John 3:18 - ch. 5:24; [Mark 16:16]
35. John 3:18 - See 1 John 5:13
36. John 3:19 - [ch. 9:39]
37. John 3:19 - See ch. 1:4, 5, 9
38. John 3:19 - [Isa. 30:10; Jer. 5:31]
39. John 3:19 - ch. 7:7
40. John 3:20 - [Job 24:13; Rom. 13:12; Eph. 5:13]
41. John 3:20 - Eph. 5:11, 13
42. John 3:21 - 1 John 1:6
43. John 3:21 - Ps. 139:23, 24





### Days Three & Four – *Interpretation*

Read John 3:1-21. We'll take two days to consider how to rightly **interpret** these verses.

1. Use your Strong's concordance for the following:
  - a. Look up the greek word for "born". Count the number of times this word appears in these few verses and compare that to John's usage of the word in the whole Gospel. What do you find? Why might that be significant?
  - b. How many times does John use the term "kingdom" of God in this Gospel? How many times in these verses?
  - c. What is the greek word for "Spirit", verse 5? For "wind", verse 8? What does that tell you?
2. Use the cross references to study Jesus' explanation of the difference between being "born" (of the flesh) and being "born again" (of the Spirit).
3. What do you learn about Jesus' reference to Moses from the cross reference? How is it applicable? (You may want to read the *context* of the cross reference.)
4. Spend some time with the cross references cited in verses 16 to 18. How is your understanding of these familiar verses deepened?



### Day Five – Application

Read John 3:1-21. How do these verses **apply** to our lives and to the church today?

1. What have you learned about Jesus from this text and the cross references that you've studied? (think about what is explicitly said and what is *inferred*)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How does what you have learned (or been reminded of) impact your life today?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What was Nicodemus looking for?

How is Nicodemus like others that you know? How is he like *you*?

4. Verses 1-15 describe what Jesus was inviting Nicodemus *to*. How does that apply to you?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. In verses 16-21, Jesus talks about the problem of the human heart that keeps him from *new life*. What action might be required of you, given Jesus' words?

*Consider praying through these verses, expressing your gratitude for "new birth" and pleading with God on behalf of others who "love the darkness".*