



Title: Do You Have the Jersey or Are You on the Roster?

Sermon Summary: In this sermon, the pastor draws a sharp distinction between cultural

familiarity with church and genuine, transformative salvation through Jesus Christ. Using the conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus in John 3 as a foundation, the pastor challenges believers to examine whether they have truly been born again or whether they are simply performing religious activity. The sermon emphasizes that church attendance, titles, good deeds, and knowing Christian vocabulary do not constitute salvation. True kingdom citizenship requires repentance, water baptism, and the infilling of the Holy Spirit, as outlined in Acts 2:38. The pastor calls the congregation to move beyond being "kingdom tourists" and to become genuine kingdom citizens, fully submitted to Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit to bring transformation wherever they go.

Key Points:

- Knowing church culture and religious tradition does not equal salvation; Nicodemus was a Pharisee with extensive knowledge of Scripture yet still needed to be born again
- The building is not the ecclesia; the church is a called-out people, not a gathering in brick and mortar, and Jesus is returning for a people, not a structure
- There is a critical difference between being a kingdom tourist and a kingdom citizen; enjoying kingdom culture, music, language, and community does not make one a kingdom citizen
- God's love language is obedience; loving God is demonstrated not through good

deeds alone but through obedience to His Word

- Repentance is not merely emotion or guilt but a change of mind that produces a change of direction
- Full submission to God is required for full deliverance; partial surrender yields only partial transformation
- The Holy Spirit empowers believers not just to attend church but to change every environment they enter, including workplaces, classrooms, and homes
- Sin issues are often trust issues; many believers hold back from full surrender because they do not fully trust God with their hearts

Scripture Reference:

- John 3:1-5, in which Jesus tells Nicodemus that a person must be born of water and the Spirit to enter the kingdom of God
- Acts 2:38, in which Peter instructs the crowd to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, with the promise of receiving the Holy Spirit
- Matthew 16:18, in which Jesus declares that He will build His church
- Philippians 3:20, which teaches that the believer's citizenship is in heaven
- 1 Corinthians 12:13, which describes being baptized by one Spirit into one body
- Proverbs 3:5-6, which instructs believers to trust God with their whole heart and not rely on their own understanding

