



## Three Shocking Truths About Jesus and Believers

**John 2:23-3:8**

**Jesus loves all people but will not entrust Himself to all people.**

**John 2:23-25:**

### **Text Message:**

o Jesus does something here that is so unlike human nature:

He was not impressed with gathering a large crowd...

He was not swept in to be adored by fans...

He bypassed opportunities for popularity and prestige...

- o <sup>24a</sup> But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them...
- o *Who were these people Jesus did not entrust Himself to? Were they people who didn't believe in Jesus?*
- o The shocking part is what is said of these people:  
<sup>23</sup> Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing.
- o These were not “unbelievers,” but devout (they were at the Passover Feast) **and** they believed in His name!
- o Yet Jesus **did not** entrust Himself to them!
- o Shouldn't this cause each of us to pause?  
*Am I someone Jesus can entrust Himself to?*  
*Are we a community Jesus can entrust Himself to?*  
*If He did not entrust Himself to believers, then who?*

**Jesus entrusts himself not to those who believe, but those who are born again.**

**John 3:1-3:**

### **Text Message:**

- o There is an unfortunate separation that takes place in our English Bibles due to chapter divisions. The Nicodemus account is the continuing story of Chapter 2:
- 1) John 3 begins with the word “Now,” which links

this to what has gone before. “Now” could be translated as “But;” meaning what we will see here is a contrast to 2:23-25.

2) Notice how Nicodemus is tied to those described in 2:23-25 because he too makes a profession of faith and mentions “signs” (a keyword in 2:23 and 3:2).

- o Jesus says to the believing Nicodemus (who represents all the people in 2:23 who believed): “unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God” (3:3).
- o You can believe but not be born again, but you cannot be born again and not believe!
- o Ancient Jews referred to converts to Judaism as “newborn babes,” here Jesus uses this imagery with a Jewish man!

### **Jesus entrusts himself to those who have entered His kingdom.**

<sup>7</sup> Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’”

### **Text Message:**

- o Verse 3 links being born again with seeing the kingdom of God. The kingdom of God to first-century Jews never meant what would happen in heaven after death, but God’s rule on earth: Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in

heaven. Matthew 6:10

- o Therefore, to “see the kingdom” means surrender to the will of God, where Jesus sits on the throne of life and not self!
- o In Verse 7, the first word “you” is singular, referring to Nicodemus. The second “you” is plural, referring to all people!
- o *Where am I right now with Jesus? Is Jesus on the throne of my life? Am I (are we) a person (community) Jesus can trust?*