


THE COMEBACK

EVERYONE NEEDS A SECOND CHANCE | 


The Ultimate
Comeback

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John 3.1-10

¹Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council.
²He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him."
³In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."
⁴"How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!"



John 3.1-10

⁵Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. ⁶Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' ⁸The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." ⁹"How can this be?" Nicodemus asked. ¹⁰"You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things?"

Introduction

Many examples in history of people who made an unexpected and radically comeback:

- Paul the Apostle
- St Patrick
- Martin Luther
- Rosario Butterfield-Champaign

The New Birth:

When Jesus says, 'You must be born again' in John 3.7, 1) who is the 'you' that must be born again, 2) why must they be born again, 3) what is does it mean to be 'born again', and 4) how does it happen?

1. The Necessity of the New Birth
2. The Nature of the New Birth
3. The Causes of the New Birth

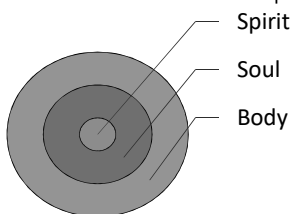
The Necessity of the New Birth

1. Jesus presents the new birth as an absolute necessity (John 3.7)
2. Why is it a necessity?
3. For whom is it a necessity?



The Nature of the New Birth

- The new birth is spiritual, not physical.
- A 2D solution to a 3D problem (3.6)?



The Nature of the New Birth

1. An experience of new life (compare Luke 9.60; 15.32)
2. An experience of new sight (3.3)
3. An experience of new hearing (3.8)



The Causes of the New Birth

1. The birth metaphor shows us that
1) this is a brand new beginning,
not a continuation, 2) a baby is
born through another's labour and
pain (blood) (cf. John 16.21)
2. The Spirit of God (3.5-6)
3. Looking with faith (1.11-13;
3.14-15)



Conclusion

The new birth is the **ULTIMATE COMEBACK**, an essential experience without which you cannot have relationship with God, so don't delay in asking God for it!

- The story of Mable's baptism.