

IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE

"TO ME"

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INTRODUCTION

- A. **TEXT:** *"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except one be born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God."* (v. 3).
- B. THE SETTING:
1. Nicodemus had come to Jesus with a question and received An unexpected answer. One he did not understand.
 2. You are the "Teacher".... teach me.
- C. *"Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter second time into his mothers womb, and be born?"* (V. 4).
1. The answer Jesus gave did not make sense to Nicodemus.
 2. It was an apparent impossibility.
 3. This is not the only time that God's instruction did not make sense to man.
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SOME O.T. EXAMPLES

- A. TO NOAH: Go build an Ark. Ship. (Gen. 7).
1. The world will be destroyed by a flood.
 2. Why did this not make sense to the world.
 - a. What is a flood?
 - b. It had never rained.
 - c. Had never been seen before.
- B. "LET MY PEOPLE GO":
1. How this would have sounded to Pharoah.
 2. They were slaves, no military, no organization, etc.
 3. Pharoah..."I am supposed to just set them free"
 4. That did not make sense.
- C. "GO FORWARD" ...God to Moses, to the people as they left Egypt.
1. What was in front of them?
 2. "Go Forward.....Into the Red Sea???"
 3. Did that make sense?
- D. WALLS OF JERICHO.
1. What they were told to do.
 2. Walk around the city every day.
 3. Then 7 times.
 4. How is this going to help us take the city???

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E. GO WASH IN RIVER JORDAN ...7 times. Naaman the leper.

1. "Behold I thought....."

2. "I have Leprosy...I need healed not a bath. Didn't make sense to him."

IN NEW TESTAMENT

A. "Besides our text"... *"She is not dead, but sleepeth, and they laughed him to scorn, knowing she was dead."* (Luke 8:52,53).

1. What Jesus said didn't make sense to them.

2. They had seen death, knew death, she was dead and had been dead for awhile.

3. How senseless to them was the statement Jesus made.

B. AT THE TOMB OF LAZARUS...Jesus said, *Take ye away the stone.* Jn. 11

1. Didn't make sense to them. Lazarus had been dead 4 days.

2. The body had already begun to decay.

3. It didn't make sense to them, for Jesus to open the tomb.

C. "DESTROY THIS TEMPLE, and in three days I will raise it up." (Jn. 2:19).

1. That made no sense...

2. It took 46 years to build this temple. (Jn. 2:20).

3. Surely this was a mistaken statement for Jesus to make.

QUESTION??

A. Why did//do God's Statements Not Make Sense To Man. Why did//do the statements seem wrong or even foolish to man???

1. The Limit of man's vision.

2. The Restriction of Man's Experiences.

3. The Limit of Human Ability.

B. MAN SEES GOD THROUGH MAN'S EYES.

1. That is they see God as man.

2. They see that which is to be...as being done by man's ability.

3. The way man could and would do it. (Try to bind this on God).

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LET'S LOOK AGAIN

A. BUILD AN ARK!

1. Hear the crash of the storm and
2. *"the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened and the rain was upon the earth 40 days and 40 nights."* (Gen. 7:11,12).
3. All the living were swept away in the flood....except Noah and family.
4. NOW...does what God said make sense??

B. LET MY PEOPLE GO!

1. The plagues.
2. Death of the 1st born...Now do you understand... *"let MY people go..."*

C. GO FORWARD!

1. The waters of the Red Sea parted.
2. They walked through on dry ground.

D. WALLS OF JERICHO.....NAAMAN. Now they understood.

E. "SHE IS NOT DEAD"!!

1. *"But he, taking her by the hand, called, saying, maiden, arise, and her spirit returned, and she rose up immediately"* (Luke 8:54,55).
2. They no longer laughed Him to scorn.

F. AT THE TOMB OF LAZARUS!!

1. *"Lazarus, come forth, He that was dead came forth"* (John 11:43,44).
2. They were amazed, but they also began to understand what Jesus said.

G. DESTROY THIS TEMPLE!!

1. He spake of His body.
2. When they went to His tomb on the 3rd day..where was He???

H. When we let God finish the statement and show us His way, THEN IT ALWAYS MAKES SENSE!!

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CONCLUSION

A. OUR TEXT:

1. Nicodemus' question... *"How can a man be born when he is old???"*
2. Didn't make sense to him.

B. NOW LET GOD EXPLAIN AND SHOW US!

1. *"Except one be born of the water and the Spirit he cannot enter the kingdom of God."* (v. 5).
2. It is a spiritual rebirth. When we enter Christ and become *"A new creation."* (II Cor. 5:17).
3. We are baptized into Christ (Gal. 3:16-28). **Born Into God's Family!**
4. And raised to *"walk in a new life."* (Rom. 6:1-6).

C. OTHER STATEMENTS OF GOD that man does not accept as making sense

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|-------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. One WAY. (John 14) | 4. WORSHIP |
| 2. One CHURCH (Matt. 16; Eph. 4:4). | |
| 3. One FAITH (Eph. 4; Gal. 1). | |

REALLY...Would Make Sense For Christ To Die, Then Tell Man To Do As
Do As They Please. What ever you want to do. What makes you feel good.
