

DIVINE RESPONSE TO UNBELIEF IN THE NEW BIRTH

JOHN 3:9-12

I. THE LORD'S RESPONSES TO PEOPLE ARE ALWAYS INFALLIBLE

- A. This Cannot Be said Of Us
- B. We Might Dare To Presume That The Lord Should Have Answered Nicodemus In A More Precise Manner

II. WE'VE COME TO A POINT IN THE CONVERSATION WHERE THE MOOD CHANGES (3:10-12)

- A. The Omniscient Lord Knew That The Question Of (3:9) Sprang From A Heart Of Unbelief
 - 1. The Lord's Teaching In (3:5-8) Was The Most Precise And Inerrant Way The Lord Could Have Possibly Answered The Question Of (3:4)
 - 2. But Still Nicodemus Voices His Incredulity In This Second Question
- B. The Lord Rebuked Nicodemus For This Reaction
 - 1. Because Of Nicodemus' Reputable Position (3:10)
 - 2. Because Of The Theology Nicodemus Should Have Known
 - a. The Limitations Of The Flesh
 - b. The Necessity Of A Creative Work Of God That Makes People Brand New
 - 3. Because Of His Failure To Receive The Witness The Lord Was Giving To Him Right At That Time (3:11)
 - a. The Identity Of The "We"
 - b. Regardless Of This Identity, Nicodemus Did Not Immediately Receive The Witness
 - 4. Because Of The Elementary Level Of The Teaching (3:12)
 - a. The Lord Is Calling His Previous Explanation In (3:5-8) "Earthly Things"
 - b. But What If Someone Actually Came From Heaven To Tell Of Things That Could Only Be Understood From An Heavenly Perspective (3:13-17)