

“Overplayed, Underheard”

John 2:23-3:21

Overplayed

Our society has come to associate “born again” with people who are needy and broken or morally rigid and authoritarian.

At best, this is something for them.

Underheard

Context for the Conversation

The signpost of the temple had become the destination.

Nicodemus is wealthy, educated, respected, powerful.

Nicodemus does not come to Jesus as spiritually needy or requiring additional moral rules.

Responding to the conversation

Jesus’ “overplayed” image is radical because it shows:

1. For all, not just “certain types”
2. Ground beneath us is morally “flat”
3. You must be fundamentally transformed
4. God has a foundationally different way of rescue revealed in Jesus Christ

You need more than a teacher you need a savior and Lord.

How do we receive?