

Nicodemus

Nicodemus was a Pharisee and member of the Sanhedrin, he seemed to be an earnest man attracted by the character and teaching of Jesus Christ but afraid to allow this interest to be known by his fellow Pharisees, [John 3:1-2].

Nicodemus could not understand the spiritual metaphors used by Jesus Christ, [John 3:3-12], as yet Nicodemus had **not** received the indwelling of the Holy Spirit that would reveal to him spiritual things, [John 16:13; John 14:26; 1 Corinthians 2:9-16].

Nicodemus is mentioned again in scripture in John 7:50-52, where he shows more courage in protesting against the condemnation of Jesus Christ without giving Him a hearing.

The final reference is in **John 19:39** where Nicodemus brought a lavish gift of spices to anoint the body of Jesus Christ.

Realising what he was risking, Nicodemus was making a bold move and he was continuing to grow spiritually.

Acts 15:5 [New King James] *“But some of the sect of the Pharisees who believed rose up, saying, ‘It is necessary to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses.’”*

Was Nicodemus among this group who had become Christians?

God looks for steady, solid, well-founded spiritual growth, not instant perfection.

How well does your spiritual growth match up with how long you have known Jesus Christ as your Saviour?

Are we limiting our spiritual growth by fear of being publically exposed as a follower and servant of Jesus Christ?

Lessons from Nicodemus’ life –

Unless we are *“born again”* by receiving the Holy Spirit into our lives to guide our lives we will never be part of the Kingdom of God.

God is able to change those we might consider unchangeable.

God is patient but persistent.

If we make ourselves available the Creator God will use us as part of His plan for all humanity.

Do **not** remain an *“undercover”* believer.