

# NOTES FOR SUNDAY SERMON

30 JULY 2023

**Sermon title :** The Holy Spirit (Part 2)

As with the story of Nicodemus in John chapter 3, the prophet Ezekiel in chapter 36 both tie together to reveal one needs to be born again in order to see the Kingdom of God.

Being born again of the Spirit is what we spoke about on Sunday. We discussed what the Holy Spirit's role in our salvation was.

**Firstly the Holy Spirit convicts us of sin :** The greatest sin in the world today is failure to believe in Jesus as Lord and Saviour- John 16:9 tells us about this sin of not believing that the Holy Spirit convicts the world of "concerning sin because they do not believe in me."

Most people do not readily admit to being guilty of sin. They will admit to failures or big mistakes or even crimes. However, sin is against God. The mighty working of the Holy Spirit is

necessary to convince and convict people of their desperate plight.

**Secondly the Holy Spirit convicts us of righteousness :**

verse 10 "because I go to the Father"

In crucifying Jesus, the Jewish people showed that they thought He was unrighteous, that only a wicked person would be crucified and thus be under God's curse.

But the Resurrection and the Ascension vindicated Jesus as God's righteous Servant. The Holy Spirit convicts people of their faulty views of Jesus.

**And lastly, the Holy Spirit convicts us of judgement :** verse

11 "concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged".

We should take note of Satan's defeat and have reverence for the Lord who holds the power to judge. As the fact of coming judgment (both Satan's and man's) is proclaimed, the Spirit convicts people and prepares them for salvation.

This initiative of God's is reiterated by Paul in 1 Corinthians 12:3 "no one can say Jesus is Lord, except in the Holy Spirit".

You cannot call on the name of the Lord for salvation if it wasn't for the initiative and conviction of the Holy Spirit.

In your home group, discuss the parallels in John 3:1-21 and Ezekiel 36:24-27 as regards being born again.

Discuss what it means for you the the Holy Spirit convicts us of sin, righteousness and judgment.