

ARCHIE PAULOUS'S SERMON

-FAMOUS THROUGH JESUS-

Bible Readings: *Old Test. Numbers 21: 4-9*
New Test. John 3: 1-21

Autobiographies are written *not* of non-famous people, and if they are it's about their relationship with a famous person (eg. Madonna's brother, Jessica Simpson's sister)

When you write about someone else (biographies) you put yourself in the background.

What sort of biography would they write about you?

In *John 3: 1-21*

Nicodemus is a man you'd write a biography about, or would even write his own autobiography.

- was a respected man AND ruler
 - So must mean something when this man comes to a guy like Jesus
 - but he comes to see Jesus at night – scared of being seen with him.

What does born again mean?

Ezekiel 36: 25-28

- You can't control being born from above, just like we can't have a second birth or control the wind.
 - Nothing I do will give access to God?
 - Answer in Old Testament – Moses in desert with the Israelites.
 - Old Testament: *Numbers 21: 4-9*
 - How did God deal with the sin?
 - They looked up on the pole with the bronze serpent
 - Jesus made the pole for us
- ie. He gives us access to kingdom of God and we are born again and have eternal life.

John wants us to reflect from *v. 16* onwards

- Look on the pole and you will be born from above
- Qualify the word 'love' –
 - God "so loved" – so much
 - "World" – world which is in opposition to God
 - Easy to love people who love you but God loved people who worked against His Kingdom.
 - God gifted his one and only Son
- "Who ever" – anyone, any nationality, race, etc
- But you have to believe to have eternal life. If you don't believe in Him you are condemned already!

Conclusion

It's not about being famous or centre of attention.

There is nothing better than God giving His son for the world.

We can't be proud about what 'we' have – it's all about JESUS!!