

Born of water and of the spirit  
Eld. Don Watts  
Old Union Ministers School  
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**Introduction:** This scripture in John three has caused me some difficulty for several years because most everything I would read and those I would talk to had a different idea. My reading sources almost always taught that the water represented baptism and the others taught that the water represented a natural birth, and I had the feeling that it didn't mean either; so I have been digging for the truth and by the grace of God I think I have found what harmonizes with the teachings of the scriptures.

I know the statements that I am going to make in this lesson might shock some of you, but if you will bear with me, I think you too will be able to see the great truth recorded in the scriptures. Sometimes it so easy to lean to the majority's opinion rather than search for the truth until you are satisfied by the Holy Spirit. It has been my belief for many years that if it is the truth, it can be traced through the entire sixty six books of the old and the New Testament. If it can not be traced through them, then there is a problem. I believe the reason for so many difficulties in studying the scriptures is that there is too much human theology.

**2 Pet 1:20** Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation.

We have no right to take the scriptures out of context and try to make them fit our thoughts. The dangers of doing such things as this is, if we are wrong and I really think that most of the teachings on this particular subject are wrong; many people could be deceived. I don't want their blood on my hands or yours. If there was no other reason for searching for the truth, this would be enough.

**Lesson text John 3:1** There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:

**Joh 3:2** The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

**Joh 3:3** Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

**Joh 3:4** Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

**Joh 3:5** Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

**Joh 3:6** That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

**Joh 3:7** Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

**Joh 3:8** The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

**Joh 3:9** Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be?

**Joh 3:10** Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?

**Joh 3:11** Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness.

