

A NEW PARADIGM

TEXT: Gen. 1:27

So God created man in His own image

John 3:3

Except a man be born again, he cannot see
the Kingdom of God.

INTRODUCTION:

A Paradigm is a conceptual framework, a way at looking at the world, a set of assumed categories -into which we pile facts... This set of facts becomes for one a prototype, pattern, or example. The Law of the day.

Yet human progress will reveal that facts change as we perceive them. Our knowledge is limited and ever evolving. I concede that some key assumptions reach their the end of their useful. They were only true up to a point, or for a time. We no longer can rely on them for the future. We need a new PARADIM.

COPERICUS - When Copernicus suggested that the earth was not at the center of the universe, he was, though he knew it not, a PARADIGM REVOLUTIONARY.

But it was the minds of men that changed, not the motion of the planets, and the way in which they now viewed that same universe had a profound effect on their beliefs, values and behavior.

A NEW PARADUGM awaited a Prophet. Many PARADIGM prophets are mistreated. Galileo, Italian astronomer and founder of thge science of mechanics; condemned by The Roman Inquisition-old man made to get on his knees and recant, denying the scientific truth which years of study had established. Old facts had become sacred.

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PROVIDENCIAL STRATEGY - God is in charge and only reveals, permits, as much as He deems esxpedit. When in the fullness of His time He moves us into NEW PARAGIMS.

NICHODEMAS in our text suffered from CROSS ROAD-IT IS- that is, admiring what's on the other side but unwilling to meet the demands required to cross over- Willing to intellectualize it, recognize its power but not to surrender to it.

Who is this Man NICHODEMAS?

Pharasee - set themselves apart on the basis of their

- o Ritual Purity
- o Minute observance of the law

They believed the LAW was the only mean's of attaining Messianic Salvation both for the person and the nation

- o They emphasized the letter of the Law at the expense of the Spirit of the Law. They were slaves to the Law, and allergic to Change.

EXAMPLES - WALLS -

- o Legal to travel on the Sabbath 2000 cubits or 3/5 of a mile
- o If the Priest hurt a finger in the Temple, bind it up with a rend, but could not press the blood. No medical work on the Sabbath- could not anoint it with vinegar and wine which was the treatment.

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o No deeds of mercy on the Sabbath Day
Christ healed a withered hand on the S
Christ cured a man suffering from drosy
Christ gave sight to the blind

Nichodemus -- like many of us recognize the
Rabbi-- the Christ - but dare not experience
Him. We would prefet intellectualizing him,
sharing in our old rituals, old perspectives,
framework of thinking--

Rabbi - which signifies a Great Man
" We know that thou a teacher
Thou art a Teacher come from God.

No man can do these miracles that thou
doest, except God be with him.

Miracles were Christ's credentials

JESUS' RESPONSE

"EXCEPT A MAN BE BORN AGAIN, HE
CANNOT SEE THE KINGDOM OF GOD"

NICHODEMAS - it does not mean a second
natural birth; or baptism by water, or any
external reformation, any rules, laws, creed
or public profession of religion.

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NICHODEMAS - Man needs a NEW PARADIGM

New events in history have altered old arrangements- God has moved in his and aborted , or nullified Israel's contract- Covenant Under the LAW, man's image continues to be distorted - yes that IMAGE

1. SPIRITUALITY - Exclusive arrangement
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh
2. HOLINESS - Upright, just, good - he's spot
Give me a clean heart so that I
3. IMMORTALITY - Living soul, destined or an
endless duration. Now he cut off by sin
and death

Longfellow- Tell me not in mournful
song, life is but an empty dream. And the soul
is dead that slumbers, things are not what
they seem. Life is real and Life is earnest and
the grave is not its goal, dust to dust thou art
returnest, But t'was not spoken of the SOUL.

Job- speak to Nichodemus- "If a man die -shall
he live again? Eternality

NICHODEMAS - Man must be born again

o A new Spirit must be implanted in the like-

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ness of God. The Soul must be refashioned -
Born again from above. The Lord on the other
side of the road must be released. Confess to
God that we have fallen short of his Diving
Goal, Surrender to Hi and Come by faith--

NICHODEMAS - For God so loved the world that
he gave his only begotten son that whosoever
BELIEVETH shall not periosh but have
everlasting life.

First Birth

Second Birth

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Partakers of human nature | -Partners with Divine Nat |
| 2. Intro to Natural World | Kingdom of God |
| 3. Image of our Parents | Image of the Lord of Heav |
| 4. Powers & Faculties of Mank- | Verities of the Spiritual |
| 5. Passages of life | |

- All old things passed away

ALL THINGS BECAME NEW - Looked at my hands and
they were new- Looked at my feet & they were too

1. It's a Divive Change - If any man be in Christ,he is a
new creature- Walks by faith, loves the bretheren

2. Being Born Again is necessary

1. Communion With God
2. Obtain benefits of His Promises
3. Obtain Holiness- We must first partake of his holy nature- must be a child before we grow into His likeness.
4. To exercise acceptable obedience

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5. To be permitted into Heaven

NICHODEMAS- say Jesus

I will be an insurance policy on my own. When the seed is planted, no one can pluck it, not even DEATH

When I return to my FATHER, The Holy Spirit will be the Agent charged with Sanctification.

The Word Of God will be the Food which will sanctify the Soul. I will go back and await the LAST PARADIGM. JOHN SPEAK.

ALL TO JESUS, I SURRENDER, ALL TO HIM I FREELY GIVE
I WILL EVER,, LOVE & TRUST HIM, IN HIS PRESENCE DAILY
LIVE.

ALL TO JESUS, I SURRENDER, MAKE ME, SAVIOR, WHOLLY
THINE, LET ME FEEL THE HOLY SPIRIT, TRULY KNOW THOU
ART MINE.

ALL TO JESUS, I SURRENDER, LORD, I GIVE MYSELF TO THEE

FILL ME WITH THY LOVE AND POWER, LET THY BLESSING
FALL ON ME

I SURRENDER ALL, I SURRENDER ALL, ALL TO THEE MY
BLESSED SAVIOR, I SURRENDER ALL.