

Dear all,

Sunday's Study Service is a bible study, JOHN 3: BIRTH FROM ABOVE, the story of Nicodemus coming secretly to Jesus and being told **we have to be born again / from above**, born of both water (baptism) and the Spirit before we can even see the kingdom of God. The Greek word *ano* (long o) can mean either "**again**" or "**from above**" & the context suggests "**from above**" is the better translation, certainly when applied to Jesus.

While beginning with the need for "birth *ano*" , chapter 3 develops and interweaves many of the themes outlined in chapter 1, John pointing from himself to Christ, Christ the Word come down from heaven to become man, the giver of life and the one who received and baptises with the Spirit, the light of Christ and the darkness of the world.

But having opened with our need to be born from above, why does the chapter immediately go on to speak of Jesus as the one who descended from heaven? **What is the connection between our being born from above and Jesus' coming "from above" (verse 31)? What too is the role of the Spirit - both in the life of Christ and in our life?**

Chapter 3 concludes with an emphatic statement on the bond of love & mission between the Father and the Son, the Father's committing of all he has to the Son & the Son's faithfulness to the Father in uttering his words and making him known.

Reading: John 3

7-8.30pm by Zoom meet (details on request)

Best wishes - Bob