

“Heaven is for Real: Who will be there?”

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – May 11, 2014 (Happy Mother’s Day)

[John 3:1-16](#)

1 Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. 2 He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him." 3 In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." 4 "How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!" 5 Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. 6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. 7 You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' 8 The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." 9 "How can this be?" Nicodemus asked. 10 "You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? 11 I tell you the truth, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. 12 I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? 13 No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven — the Son of Man. 14 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, 15 that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. 16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

The Bible says that...

I. **GOD HAS GIVEN US A CHOICE**

3 ... Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."

The Bible says that...

2. **THE CHOICE HAS ETERNAL CONSEQUENCES**

14 "... the Son of Man must be lifted up, 15 "that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." 16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

So according to scripture...

According to Jesus...

The choice is---

A. ETERNAL LIFE WITH HIM

- or -

B. PERISH

The Bible says that...

3. **THE CHOICE IS JESUS**

5 Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. 6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

[John 10:10](#)

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it more abundantly.

[John 14:6](#)

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

[Acts 4:8, 12](#)

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them:

12 "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."