



John 3



Reasons we reject the Gospel

1. We believe we're too good.



Reasons we reject the Gospel

1. We believe we're too good.
2. We believe we're too bad.



Gospel for the 'Too Good'



John 3



Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come

John 3:1-2



from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.”

John 3:1-2



Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is

John 3:3-4



old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"

John 3:3-4



Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which

John 3:5-8



is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it

John 3:5-8



comes from or where it goes. So it is
with everyone who is born of the
Spirit.”

John 3:5-8



Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?”

John 3:9



Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? 11 Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to

John 3:10-13



what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No one has

John 3:10-13



ascended into heaven except he who
descended from heaven, the Son of
Man.

John 3:10-13



**Nicodemus' issue is that he
thinks he's too good for the
Gospel.**



What makes me right with God?



Symptoms of being 'too good'

1. Image management



Symptoms of being 'too good'

1. Image management
2. Pride



Symptoms of being 'too good'

1. Image management
2. Pride
3. Rule following



Symptoms of being 'too good'

1. Image management
2. Pride
3. Rule following
4. Performing for God and others



**What makes me right with God,
and others, is my goodness.**



No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man

John 3:13-15



be lifted up, that whoever believes in
him may have eternal life.

John 3:13-15



“Nearly everyone defines sin as breaking a list of rules. Jesus, though, shows us that a man who has violated virtually nothing on the list of moral misbehaviors can be



every bit as spiritually lost as the most profligate, immoral person. Why? Because sin is not just breaking the rules, it is putting yourself in the place of God as



Savior, Lord, and Judge. We must learn how to repent of the sin under all our other sins and under all our righteousness — the sin of seeking to be our own Savior and Lord. We must admit that we've put our



ultimate hope and trust in things other than God, and that in both our wrongdoing and right doing we have been seeking to get around God or get control of God in order to get hold of those things.”

Tim Keller



**We want to perform. He says
'look'.**

