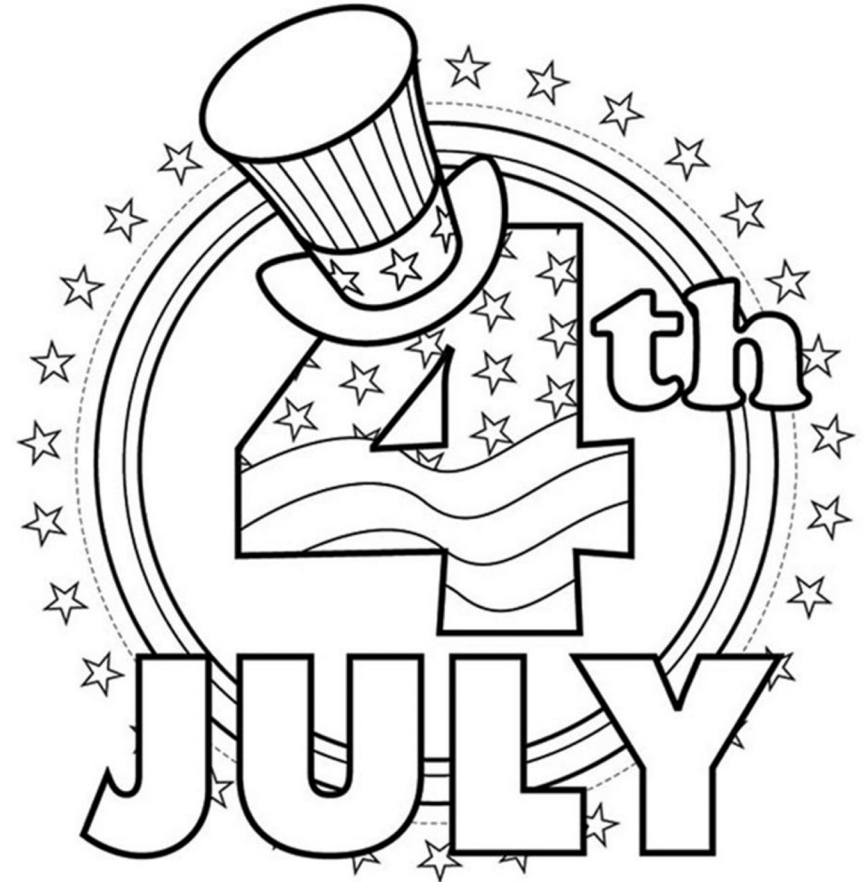
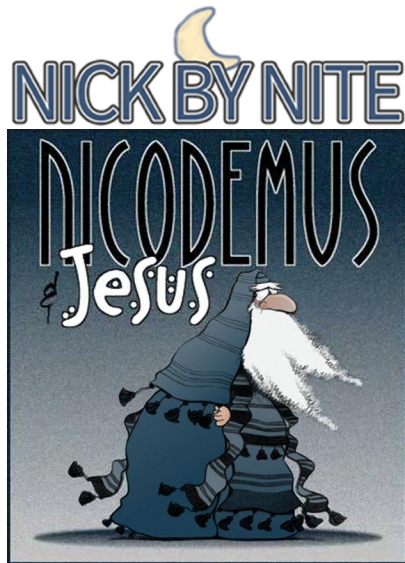


July 2024



- 5 ACROSS "There was a man of the Pharisees named _____, a ruler of the Jews." JOHN 3:1
- 5 DOWN "This man came to Jesus by _____ and said to Him, 'Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God.'" JOHN 3:2
- 4 DOWN "Jesus answered and said to him, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is _____, he cannot see the kingdom of God.'" JOHN 3:3
- 7 ACROSS "That which is born of the flesh is _____." JOHN 3:6
- 2 ACROSS "...and that which is born of the Spirit is _____." JOHN 3:6
- 3 DOWN "Nicodemus answered and said to Him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered and said to him, 'Are you the _____ of Israel, and do not know these things?'" JOHN 3:9-10
- 6 DOWN "...that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal _____." JOHN 3:15
- 1 DOWN "For God so _____ the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." JOHN 3:16
- 8 ACROSS "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be _____." JOHN 3:17



A Story of Salvation

By Paul Dallgas-Frey



NICODEMUS CAME TO JESUS BY NIGHT.

Nicodemus was a Pharisee.

He was an important man. He was a teacher of the Jewish people, and he was supposed to know everything about the ways of God.

But he was afraid.

He was old now, his beard was long and gray, and in the deepest corner of his heart, he knew that there was one thing he didn't know. And so one night Nicodemus came to Jesus in secret and said,

"Teacher, what must I do to be saved?"

There was something about Jesus, something about the way he looked into your eyes that said, "I know."

"Unless a man is born again, he cannot enter the kingdom of God!" was all that Jesus

said.

"But, Master, I am old! How can I be born again? Am I supposed to crawl back into mother's stomach and be born again? I don't think it will work!"

But Jesus smiled warmly. "I tell you, unless you are born of water and the spirit, you cannot enter the Kingdom of God."

Nicodemus left Jesus that night, still very much in the dark.



Now, this next part isn't in the Bible. But it could have happened something like this...

The old, tired, and very confused Nicodemus crawled into bed that night, saying over and over to himself, "Unless you are born again, you cannot enter the kingdom of God. Unless you are born again..."

And then he had a dream.



He was a young boy again, and a package arrived at the door.

You know how exciting it is whenever a package arrives at the door - especially one you weren't expecting! This package was wrapped almost too wondrously to tear open. On it was a note on handmade paper, and written by hand in gold ink it said,

"To Nicodemus. Try not to get it dirty."

Well, Nicodemus TRIED to open the package carefully, but in the end, he couldn't help it. He tore it open.

Inside was the most beautiful robe he had ever seen.

It was dazzling white with brightly colored stripes at the bottom and the ends of the sleeves, in designs that seemed to have been hand stitched especially for him - amazing designs of all the things he really liked: lions and dragons and bowls of fresh figs with cheese.

continued next time ...