

Chapter 1

The New Birth

John 3: 3 "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Almost 2000 years ago a very important man from the nation of Israel appeared before Jesus at night, to know him as RABI (teacher) who came from God, because of the signs that he was doing. However, Jesus, regardless of the words of Nicodemus, the nocturnal visitor, tells him that if he is not born again, he will not be able to see the kingdom of God.

I - Concepts Around the New Birth

REGENERATION: This word is mentioned in:

KJV Matthew 19:28 Jesus said to them: `` Truly I tell you, in the time of regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones to judge the twelve tribes of Israel.

RVA Titus 3: 5 he saved us, not because of the works of justice that we had done, but according to his mercy; through the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,

Regeneration according to Strong's concordance: from Greek

<1, 3824, *palingenesis*> "New Birth" (palin, "again, again"; genesis, "to be born")

II- The need to be Born Again

A) If you must be born again, it is because something that had life before has died.

Genesis 2: 17 but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for on the day you eat from it, you will certainly die."

We know that Adam and Eve ate and unless God doesn't keep his word, they both died. However, we see in **Genesis 3: 6-21**. that after having eaten they were still existing. This teaches us that in biblical thought and context, death is not the same as nonexistence. Proof of this is that being dead in Genesis 3:21 we see that they were made garments of skin for their bodies and then they were thrown out of the garden, and this lets us see that the meaning of death in the Bible is a separation from God. To better understand what happened, we have to remember some things that the Bible tells us about the integral being of man.

1. Man is a tripartite being, that is, three parts make up his being, these are: Spirit, Soul and Body. We see this in the next verse

1 Thessalonians 5:23 And may the same God of peace sanctify you completely; and may your whole being, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Considering all the above, we can conclude that when Adam and Eve sinned, it was their spirit that died, that is, they stopped having communion with God. This is evident when man, after sinning, hides from God.

2. The death of the spirit resulted in the degeneration of the soul and this in turn affected the body. Likewise, creation was cursed by sin, which affected the environment in which Adam and Eve moved; and caused diseases to the body, at the age of 930 Adam physically died Genesis 5:5.

B) Spiritual and physical death is transmitted to all men (Romans 15:12-19; Ephesians 2:1-5).

KJV Colossians 2:13 And you, being dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath He quickened together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,

Spiritual death guarantees physical death and if there is no regeneration, second death in the lake of fire.

The Bible says that sin entered the world through one man and death through sin. This spiritual death spread to all men because all sinned.

Romans 3:23 because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, so death also spread to all men, because all sinned.

- 1) God created Adam and Eve not to physically die, however sin brought with it this curse as seen from the context in 1 Corinthians 15: 20-22. Glory to God that in Christ this curse has been abolished! That is why the children of God only sleep with the certain hope of the resurrection. Hallelujah!

KJV 1 Corinthians 15:20 But now, Christ has risen from the dead, as the Firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. KJV 1 Corinthians 15:21 Since death entered through a man, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a man. KJV 1 Corinthians 15:22 For just as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive.

We can conclude that the need to be born again or to be regenerated is because man without Christ is spiritually dead in trespasses and sins Colossians 2:13.

III- How the New Birth takes place

Without a doubt, this contains a great mystery and what we are going to study next, only pretends to be a small approach. Someday the Lord will fully explain this wonderful mystery to us. For the New Birth to take place, the spirit that is dead must come to life through an encounter with the one who is life.

John 14: 6 Jesus said to him: I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through me.

Let's see how that meeting takes place:

The Lord teaching his disciples about the work of the Holy Spirit said that he will convict of sin, righteousness, and Judgment. That is why by a touch of the Spirit, repentance, (change of mind, or way of thinking) is produced in us through which we know who we are and for the first time we accept our guilt before God.

John 16: 8 And he, when he is come, will convict the world in respect of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9 of sin, because they believe not on me; 10 of righteousness, because I go to the Father, and ye behold me no more.

With this conviction of sin, the Holy Spirit leads to genuine repentance, facing the word to be believed or not.

PRATT John 1:12 But all those who received him, namely, to those who believe in his name he has given the privilege of being made children of God, who were begotten ... of God.

By believing in Christ, we are begotten by the word. This begetting of God (of incorruptible seed) transmits new life to us.

1 Peter 1:23 For you have been born again, not of a corruptible seed, but of one that is incorruptible, that is, through the living and abiding word of God.

James 1:18 By his own will, he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would be the first fruits of his creatures.

However, as we can see in the parable of the sower (Matthew 13:18-23), there are different fields in which the seed of the word is sown.

1. Land Along the road:
 - a. He is the one who hears the word and does not understand it. The evil one comes and snatches away the word that was sown in his heart.
2. Land in Rocky Places:
 - a. He hears the word and receives it with joy, but it does not have a deep root but is temporary and the affliction because of the word makes him stumble and fall.

3. Land between thorns:
 - a. They hear the word, yet the worries of the world and the deceitfulness of riches drown the word, and it remains fruitless.
4. The good terrain.
 - a. He is the one who hears the word and understands it (begetting), it bears 30, 60 or 100% fruit.

The fruit produced by the word in the good soil, evidences the new birth, which makes us new creatures in the process of maturing until we reach the stature of the perfect man to the fullness of the Son of God.

In the new birth, our spirit that was previously dead comes to life and our spirit becomes one with that of Christ, who became for us God's wisdom, justification, and redemption, which guarantees that the work begun will be completed until the glorification of our bodies.

KJV 1 Corinthians 6:17 But whoever is united with the Lord is one spirit.

KJV 1 Corinthians 1:30 Through him you are in Christ Jesus, whom God made for us wisdom, justification, sanctification, and redemption.

KJV Romans 8:29 We know that those whom he knew before, he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son; so that he may be the firstborn among many brothers.

KJV Romans 8:30 And those whom he predestined, these he also called; and whom he called, these he also justified; and whom he justified, these he also glorified.

IV - Fruits of the New Birth

It is the Apostle John who writes the most about the new birth, not only in his Gospel but in his pastoral letters; the first being the one that most abundantly speaks to us of the fruits of the one who has been born again.

- A) The born again is made a child of God.

JOHN 1:12 But to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,

JOHN 1:13 who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God

- A) We walk in Light, having communion with one another.

JOHN 1: 7 He came as a testimony, in order to bear testimony of the light, so that all might believe through him.

1JO 1: 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of his Son Jesus cleanses us from all sin.

B) Love to our brothers.

1JOHN 1:10 But if we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1 JOHN 3:14 We know that we are passed from death to life, in that we love our brothers. He who does not love his brother remains in death.

1 JOHN 4: 7 Dear ones, let us love one another; because love is from God. Anyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

1 JOHN 4: 8 He who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

C) No one who is born of God practices sin.

1 JOHN 3: 9 Everyone who has been born of God does not practice sin, because the seed of God remains in him, and he cannot continue to sin, because he has been born of God.

1 JOHN 5:18 We well know that anyone who is born of God does not sin; but he who is begotten of God keeps himself, and the evil one does not touch him.

This if not interpreted correctly can cause confusion, since we also read:

1 John 2: 1 My children, these things I write to you so that you do not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an advocate before the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

Does the Apostle contradict himself? NO! He wants to emphasize the fact that the one who has been born again flees from sin, however if it reaches him, he must confess it and trust the One who at the right hand of the Father interposes his blood sacrifice for the forgiveness of sins.

We must differentiate between someone who practices sin and another person who is affected by sin, in the first case we refer to a person who deliberately sins, and seeks a way to sin without being seen, in the second case we speak of a person that although he fights against sin, and against those areas of his life that are still being restored, he suddenly succumbs and sins, and unlike the one who practices sin, this other who was weak, his heart is filled with repentance in that very moment , and seek forgiveness.

D) He who is born of God overcomes the world by faith in Christ.

1 John 5: 4 Because everything that is born of God overcomes the world: and this is the victory that overcomes to the world, our faith.

1 John 5: 5 Who is it that overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

E) We have Life

1John 5: 12 The one who has the Son has life. The one who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13 I have written these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

F) The newborn yearns for unadulterated spiritual milk.

1 Peter 2: 2 Desire, like newborn children, the spiritual milk, without deception, so that through it you grow in health:

It is important to note that the Apostle says that we should long for spiritual milk: What is that milk? the basic doctrine of the gospel, but not just any milk, not just any doctrine, but it is clear when saying that we must look for the one that has no deception, the milk that has not been adulterated, that has not been changed by the doctrines of men, that It has not been mixed with pagan customs, it has not been turned into a heap of precepts or human laws, sound doctrine is one that teaches us to follow Christ faithfully, to love Him and his second coming, it teaches us to leave the bad habits that we acquire in the world, it teach us that we should no longer sin because we love God and Christ who died for us.

CONCLUSIONS

1. Because of Adam's sin, the condition of man without Christ is one of spiritual death.
2. Spiritual death makes the new birth essential.
3. In the new birth our spirit comes to life and the incorruptible seed (the divine nature) is transmitted to us through the begetting of the word.
4. The new birth guarantees the whole process of passing from death to full life.
5. Not everyone who hears the word understands it, but only those who receive it with good ground in their heart and it bears fruit on different levels.
6. To be born again requires genuine repentance.
7. Sound doctrine is what teaches us to love God, and not what fills us with fears of God.
8. Sound doctrine is one that has not been plagued by worldly customs or human laws.



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