



*Born Again*

JOHN 3:1-8

1 Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews; 2 this man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.” 3 Jesus answered and said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” 4 Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” ...

5 Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. 6 That which has been born of the flesh is flesh, and that which has been born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ 8 The wind blows where it wishes and you hear its sound, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who has been born of the Spirit.”

JOHN 3:1–8

# Need

- New birth makes entrance into the kingdom of heaven possible (JOHN 3:3, 5; CF. MATT 18:3).
- Many Jews assumed their right to the kingdom because of lineage, but the new birth is not based on ancestry (LUKE 3:8; JOHN 8:33, 39; CF. 1:12–13).
- We must be born again (or from above) because Jesus created a spiritual kingdom (JOHN 18:36).

# Essence

- The new birth is a spiritual, heavenly (re)birth when God gives new life (JOHN 3:4–8; CF. 1:12–13).
- The first element of this birth is WATER, which involves visible and invisible realities (3:5; CF. vv. 22–23; 1:33; 4:10; 7:37–38; EZEK 36:25–28; ROM 6:3–5).
- The second element of this birth is (the) SPIRIT (JOHN 3:6, 8; 1:33; 6:63; 7:39; TITUS 3:3–7).

# Result

- The consequence of new birth is a new life, free from the sin of the old one (ROM 6:4–5; 2 COR 5:17).
- The work of the Spirit is invisible, but the effects of the new birth are visible—just as the effects of the wind are visible (JOHN 3:8; CF. TITUS 3:8; GAL 5:22–23).
- The ultimate reward of new birth is eternal life with God (JOHN 3:3, 5, 16–17; CF. 1 JOHN 2:28–3:3).



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