

The Message

Pastor Ron Smith

The New Birth

John 3:7

Do not marvel that I said to you, “You must be born again.”



Nicodemus

“Does our law judge a man before it hears him and knows what he is doing” (John 7:51)?



Where was this taught in the Old Testament?

“Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things?”

(John 3:30)



The New Birth Is Circumcision of the Heart

And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart
... to love the LORD your God with all your heart and
with all your soul, that you may live (Deuteronomy
30:6).



The New Birth Is Sprinkling to Cleanse from Sin and a New Spirit to Give Power Over Sin

Then I will sprinkle clean **water** on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new **spirit** within you (Ezekiel 36:25-26).



The New Birth Washes & Renews

“... washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit” (Titus 3:5).



Born of God

John 1:11-13

He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.



Born of Water and the Spirit

Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins,
calling on the name of the Lord (Acts 22:16).

Obedience in baptism cleanses the conscience.



Why Do We Need to be Born Again?

The State of the Natural Man Is Pure Selfishness



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But the **natural man** does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are **spiritually** discerned (1 Corinthians 2:14).



The State of the Natural Man Is Pure Selfishness

Romans 8:7-9

The **carnal mind** is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh but in the **Spirit**, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.



The Spiritual Man Has a New Tendency

1. Practices righteousness (1 John 2:29)
 - Everyone who **practices righteousness** is born of Him
2. Does not live in sin (1 John 3:9)
 - Whoever has been born of God **does not sin**
3. Loves (1 John 4:7)
 - Everyone who **loves** is born of God.
4. Believes that Jesus is the Christ (1 John 5:1)
 - Whoever **believes** that Jesus is the Christ is born of God
5. Overcomes the world (1 John 5:4)
 - For whatever is born of God **overcomes the world.**
6. Keeps himself from the wicked one (1 John 5:18)
 - But he who has been born of God **keeps himself**



Differences & Similarities Between True & False Converts

The true convert seeks God's glory as the greatest good.

The false convert seeks his own happiness as the greatest good.

The difference is in their motives.

The true convert loves God's law.

The false one considers God's law as grievous and harsh.

The true convert comes to church to bless God.

The false convert comes to get blessed.



How Do We Get Born Again?

He says, “as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life” (John 3:14-15).

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him (2 Corinthians 5:21).



Look & Live

“And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another” (2 Corinthians 3:18).



Pray for Open Eyes

The new birth is a supernatural experience brought about by a Divine infusion of light.

Behold the Lamb and pray for it.
You **MUST** be born again!



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