

WHY MUST I BE
BORN
AGAIN?



Many today, because they do not understand the meaning of the term "born again," pass the matter out of their minds without giving it the serious consideration it deserves. The new birth is Scriptural terminology given by Jesus Christ Himself. That which is presented here is not a fad, is not something new...it is the eternal Word of God.

When Jesus Christ said, "*Ye must be born again,*" He meant that some action must be taken regarding this important spiritual matter.

As you read this you will take action by accepting or rejecting or neglecting the new birth. That is up to you. But consider the facts as presented by the Son of God Himself.

Why was it that the Lord Jesus Christ said, "*Ye must be born again,*" and why was it He selected a religious and highly educated man by the name of Nicodemus to present this truth to the human race? These are stupendous questions but they are answered clearly for us in the Word of God.

One need not look very far to realize that the world in which we live has been blighted by sin. Sin is in high places, for nations and leaders of nations do not trust one another. Sin is in our own community, for crime, greed, and graft are everywhere. And sin is within the heart of each one of us: "*For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God*" (Romans 3:23).

The universality of sin is borne out by this quotation from Scripture: "*Wherefore, as by one*

man (Adam) sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned" (Romans 5:12). Thus we see that the human race is under condemnation of death. If one is to be saved, one needs to be saved from this death and needs to be given new life. Friend, you and I need a Saviour: "*For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive*" (1 Corinthians 15:22). Speaking to Nicodemus in John, Chapter 3, the Lord Jesus said, "*That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.... Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God*" (John 3:6, 7, 3).

As the Lord Jesus proceeded to explain the new birth He told of His coming death, and that He would be lifted up on the Cross to be judged by God and to bear away the sin of the world.

Then there came from the lips of the Son of God the most precious words to fall upon human ears:

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God" (John 3:16-18).

The new birth then, is simply the acknowledgement of my sinful condition before a holy God and faith in the Son of God who bore my

sins on the Cross and was judged by God in my stead. When I experience this then I can claim this promise: *"But as many as received him (the Lord Jesus Christ), to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God"* (John 1:12, 13).

Now it is up to you to accept, reject, or neglect the new birth. But remember, *"How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?"* (Hebrews 2:3).

If you decide to accept the glorious new birth, these words may help you know what to say to God: "Dear God, I want to be born again as Your child. I am a sinner and I ask You to forgive me. I turn away from my sins right now in repentance. I believe Your Son Jesus died in my place on the Cross and rose again after three days. I believe His shed Blood paid the penalty for my sins. Thank You Lord for saving me! In Jesus Name, Amen."

—Neil D. Cameron

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