#### The New Birth

## **According to God's Word**

### What Is It & Why You Need It

# ARE YOU AWARE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT STATEMENT EVER ISSUED TO MAN?

#### "YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN"

Why? Because without it you have no hope of enjoying the glories of heaven or of escaping the terrors of hell. **Have YOU been born again?** God spoke to us through Jesus and said, "Ye must be born again." (John 3:7). "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." (John 3:3).

#### WHAT THE NEW BIRTH IS

IT IS THE WORK OF GOD by which each one of us, as a hell-deserving sinner, can receive a new life. It is a second birth, a spiritual birth. (Romans 3:23 & 6:23).

The new birth is not a religion, it is not morality, it is not reformation-

It is a mystery words cannot explain, but a reality you cannot explain away. "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is everyone that is born of the Spirit" (John 3:8). Jesus spoke those words to Nicodemus, a well-educated religious leader: who was doing his best to gain heaven. Just as Nicodemus could not understand or explain the wind, so no man can really understand or explain the new birth. You do not have to understand all the mysteries of God. If religious Nicodemus needed to be born again, so do you. How do you expect to make it to heaven without being born again if Nicodemus couldn't?

It is with you as it was with Nicodemus keeping the law, going to church, joining a church, being religious, being baptized, living up to a creed will not save you. There will be many in hell who did all of these things. Will you? Regardless of your denomination, "Ye must be born again."

The wind is a reality no man can explain away, only a fool would say, "I don't believe in the wind. I have never seen it, I can't understand it, so there just isn't any such thing as a wind." Many Bible rejecting, faith destroying "explainers" are denying the reality of the new birth. What they cannot understand they say just doesn't exist. They say the new birth is just an "emotional experience." When they get through explaining the new birth there isn't anything left of it. This is the failing wisdom of man. (1 Corinthians 2:14).

Thank God, no matter what the modernists say, the new birth is a reality no man can explain away! Ask the man who has been born again if there is anything to it! You cannot see the Holy Spirit. You cannot explain Him. But see His mighty power make the prostitute pure, the liar honest, the drunkard sober, the blasphemer pray, the fearful brave, set the addict free, and then try to deny the reality of it!

When some people are asked if they are a child of God, they say "I hope so," or "I think so," "I'm trying to be as best I can." Suppose you asked John Jones if he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jones and he'd answer, "I hope so," or "I think so," "I'm trying to be as best I can." You would question his mind! He is not their son because he tries to be but because he was born into their home. If you are a child of God it is not because of your trying, but because you have been born into His family. If you are not a child of God you actually have no right to pray, "Our Father..."

The physical life begins by birth. The spiritual life begins the same-not by joining a church and becoming religious. You cannot join the family of God; you must be BORN into it. Born "not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." (John 1:13).

A birth is the coming into being of a new life which has the nature of its parents. When you were born the first time you were made a partaker of the nature of natural man. When you are "born again" you become a partaker of the divine nature (2 Peter 1:4). Is this true of you? Do you have the divine nature? No matter what kind of a religious profession you have made, no matter how good a person you may ne morally, unless you have been made a partaker of the divine nature by receiving Christ (john 1:12), you are not saved. Some people do not like the word

"saved," but "saved," is God's Word! Jesus Christ is our Savior. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." (Mark 16:16). When you receive Christ you are saved, converted, born again – call it what you will; it is the key to heaven.

"But what about all the good things I have done? Won't this get me to heaven?" Not according to God's word. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast."

Be sure you are born again! "Examine yourselves to see whether you are holding to your faith. Test yourselves. Do you not realize that Jesus is in you? — unless indeed you fail to meet the test!" (2 Corinthians 13:5 RSV). Do you meet the test? Can you sense His presence within yourself? There may be a more spectacular change in the life of one who is a cursing blasphemer, but there has to be a change when you are "born again." There will be a new attitude toward the Lord Jesus Christ, His word, His people, and a new attitude towards prayer. Are you SURE you have been born again? "IF any man be in Christ he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." (2 Corinthians 5:17). Have you become a new creature?

#### **HOW TO BE BORN AGAIN**

- 1. <u>ACCEPT GOD'S WORD: THAT HE LOVE YOU AN WANTS TO</u>

  <u>GIVE YOU AN ABUNDANT LIFE.</u> "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." (John 3:16). "I am come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly." (john 10:10).
- 2. ACCEPT GOD'S WORD: THAT YOU ARE A SINNER: THAT THIS SEPARATES YOU FROM GOD: THAT YOU MUST TRULY REPENT, or "turn away" from sin. "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23). "For the wages of sin is death: but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23). "The Lord is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to REPENTANCE." (2 Peter 3:9)
- 3. ACCEPT GOD'S WORD: THAT THE SHED BLOOD OF JESUS IS GOD'S ONLY PROVISION FOR MAN TO GET RID OF SIN." ... the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." (1 John 1:7). "But

God commendeth His love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8).

- 4. ACCEPT GOD'S WORD: THAT JESUS CHRIST IS OUR ONLY CONTACT WITH GOD. "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6). "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus." (1 Timothy 2:5).
- 5. RECEIVE JESUS CHRIST AS SAVIOR AND LORD BY YOUR PERSONAL INVITATION. "But as many as received him, to them gave He the power to become the sons of God." (John 1:12). "Behold I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I WILL COME IN TO HIM..." (Christ speaking in Revelation 3:20).

Do you feel a tug at your heart right now? This is how He knocks. Jesus wants in!

Will you receive Christ right now? You can be saved in 30 seconds! Open the door!

Pray now in your own words, God knows your heart – Pray something like this:

"Lord Jesus, I truly repent of my sins, I turn my back on them right now and look to you! I ask you to forgive me. I open the door of my heart and receive you as My Savior and My Lord. Take control of my life, keep me from evil and make me the kind of person you want me to be!"

This is the point where you take your step of faith in God's word. Thank Him for coming in whether you "feel saved" or not! Like this: "Thank you Lord for coming into my heart and for hearing my prayer as you promised." Your life will start to change from this moment.

#### **ASSURANCE**

Did you ask Christ into your heart? Were you sincere?

Then where is He right now? Christ said He would come in! He is not a liar.

If your answer is "yes, Christ is in my heart," YOU ARE BORN AGAIN. "He that hath the Son hath life (right now): and he that hath not the Son of God hath not

life." "These things have I written unto you that believeth on the Son of God: that ye may know that ye have eternal life." (1 John 5:12-13).

**Remember**, even though you may sense the presence of God right now, you may not tomorrow! You are not saved because you "feel saved." Your faith must stand on God's word, not on feelings.

## HOW TO BECOME STRONG IN THE LORD AND STAY STRONG IN THE LORD

<u>THANK THE LORD EVERY DAY FOR SAVING YOUR SOUL</u> – Jesus said, "...He that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and manifest myself to him." (John 14:21). Expect a change in your life!

<u>WITNESS</u> – Tell someone at every opportunity what you have done – that you have accepted Christ as your personal Savior. This is very important. If you truly love Jesus, you will want to tell others about Him, and He will "manifest" Himself to you. Read Romans 10:9-10. "That if thou shall confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."

ASK GOD to fill you with the Holy Spirit that you might be a powerful witness in every phase of your life – "But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me –" (Acts 1:8).

"If ye then being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children; how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?" (Luke 11:13).

<u>READ GOD'S WORD EVERY DAY</u> – You are a new born babe in Christ – you need food – it comes from God's Word. Start by reading the Gospel of John over three time. Put yourself in the place of Nicodemus! The Bible will have new meaning to you now.

<u>PRAY</u> – Take time every day to kneel down and pray and praise His name. Talk to God – out loud – just as you would to another person, and in the name of Jesus.

SEEK THE FELLOWSHIP OF OTHER BORN AGAIN CHRISTIANS—you will grow strong in the fellowship. By studying and praying together you will be drawn into the meat of God's Word. You will be able to resist sin and receive the "Abundant Life."