

REGENERATION: "Born Again" Pt. 2

What is Regeneration?

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| <p>1. It is the only way to gain entrance into the kingdom of God – enter in this way or do not enter at all</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the kingdom of God is: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) the rule and reign of God; the authority of Jesus Christ (Mt 28:18; Acts 2:36) b) a kingdom not of this world but rather in the midst of or within its citizens (John 18:36; Luke 17:20-21) c) both spiritual and physical as well as both present and future (Col 1:13; Mt 13:41-42; 1 Cor 15:24-26) <p>2. It is to be born a second time; born from above (John 3:3, 7)</p> <p>3. It is to be born of God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NOT born of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - blood (bloods) = human ancestry - the will of the flesh = the decision of human parents to have a child - the will of man = human willpower → it cannot be controlled or determined by human actions or rituals - it is an act of God's sovereign will (John 1:12-13) <p>4. It is to be born of Jesus Christ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - He gives life to whomever He wishes | <p>5. It is to be born of the Spirit → a spiritual rebirth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NOT the repetition of a biological process - it is a mystery – like the wind <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4151 πνεῦμα = <i>pneuma</i> - 7307 רוּחַ = <i>ruach</i> = Spirit, spirit = wind = breath - it is invisible – no one can see what God is doing in someone's heart or soul <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - however the effects can be readily seen - it is God's act of re-creation (John 3:6, 8; 20:22; Gen 2:7; 5:1-4) <p>6. It is the coming into being of a completely new life, the production of a new thing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - it is NOT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the old life or nature altered or reformed or invigorated - a natural phenomenon - it is a supernatural act of God <p>7. The regenerate person has had imparted to him</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - new life, the very life of God - he is as one who has passed out of death into life - this life is hidden with Christ in God (2 Cor 4:10-11; Eph 4:18; John 5:24; Col 3:3) | <p>8. It is being born of God's seed (1 John 3:9)</p> <p>9. It is becoming a partaker of God's nature (2 Peter 1:4; 1 John 3:2)</p> <p>10. It is the beginning of the eternal Christian life</p> <p>11. It is instantaneous – although we may perceive the experience to be gradual, it is not a process</p> <p>12. It is permanent (Phil 1:6; Rom 8:38-39; 1 John 5:18)</p> <p>13. It is to be born of water and the Spirit (John 3:5; Titus 3:5)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - possible meanings of "born of water": <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) physical birth (Greek construction points to one birth not two) b) the baptism of John (Mk 1:4; Acts 13:24, 19:4) c) baptism (Acts 2:38-39; Mark 16:16; 1 Cor 4:15, 1:14) d) water representing the word of God (John 15:3; Eph 5:25-26) e) the Holy Spirit, the living water (John 7:38-39) ⇒ f) the water of cleansing prophesied and promised as part of the New Covenant (Eze 36:25-28) |
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(1 John 2:28-29; John 5:21)		
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