



New Birth

John 3:1-21

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Brian Lightsey

There is a difference between knowing about life and actually being alive.

▪ **The Necessity of the New Birth (1-5)**

The kingdom of God is the life-giving rule and reign of God in this world.

Many try to rely on old religion, but Jesus says we must have a new birth.

What does it mean to be “born again”?

The first birth: Born of water refers to water’s involvement in childbirth – the natural birth when we enter the world.

The second birth: Born of the Spirit refers to the Holy Spirit’s involvement in conversion – the spiritual birth when we enter the kingdom of God.

Being born again is when the Spirit is put inside us to cleanse, renew, and empower us. (Eze. 36:25-27)

▪ **The Character of the New Birth (6-13)**

The new birth is spiritual. Just as physical birth gives physical life, spiritual birth gives spiritual life.

Without Jesus, spiritually we are dead. We need life. (Eph. 2:1-2)

Dead things cannot make themselves alive. Spiritually dead people cannot save themselves through self-effort and religion.

We need life that only comes through the Spirit. (John 6:63)

▪ **The Experience of the New Birth (14-18)**

Being born again requires:

- The love of God the Father (16-17)
- The sacrifice of God the Son (14-15)
- The work of God the Spirit (5-7)
- The Faith of People (15-16, 18)

To be born again I must believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Jesus came to save us, not condemn us.

If we believe in Jesus, we experience salvation. If we refuse to believe in Jesus, by default we experience condemnation.

▪ **The Rejection of the New Birth (19-20)**

Jesus is the light that exposes what darkness hides.

Unwilling to expose and turn from sin, people naturally reject the light and the new birth he offers.

▪ **The Evidence of the New Birth (21)**

John 3:21 But the one who practices the truth comes to the Light, so that his deeds will be revealed as having been performed in God. (NAS)

Those who are born again accept the light and live by its truth and in the power of God.

Would Nicodemus leave the dark and come into the light?

Was Nicodemus ever born again? (John 7:48-52; 19:38-42)

What about you? Have you been born again?