

“The New Birth”

John 3:1-8

“The New Birth”

- 1) Why did Nicodemus come to Jesus at night time?
- 2) What was the purpose of miracles according to Jn 3?
- 3) If a father says to a young man, “*You may no longer **see** my daughter,*” does this mean the boy is no longer able to see the girl with his eyes?
- 4) Jn 3:3 teaches the necessity of the new birth. What does v5 teach?

“The New Birth”

- 5) What two elements are necessary for physical birth to occur?
- 6) What part does the Holy Spirit play in man’s salvation?
- 7) Does a marriage ceremony change the way a couple feels about each other, or does it change their relationship toward each other?
- 8) How many times does the Greek word πνεύμα occur and how is it usually translated?

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Matthew 3:9

9 "and do not think to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.

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“Birth”

FATHER

Begets the child

(life begins here)

MOTHER

Gives birth to the child

(child moves from
one state to another state)

“New Birth”

FATHER
(Holy Spirit)

MOTHER
(Water)

Begets spiritual life

(life begins here)

Word of God

Gives birth to the child

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Baptism

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1 Peter 1:23

23 having been **born again**, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, **through the word of God** which lives and abides forever,

1 Corinthians 4:15

15 For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus **I have begotten you through the gospel.**

James 1:18

18 Of His own will He begat us with the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

1 Thessalonians 2:13

13 For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, **the word of God, which also effectively works in you** who believe.

Romans 1:16

16 For I am not ashamed of **the gospel of Christ**, for **it is the power of God to salvation** for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

Romans 10:14

14 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?

1 Corinthians 1:21

21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God **through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.**

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John 1:11-12

11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave **the right to become** children of God, to those who believe in His name:

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Romans 6:3-4

3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were **baptized into Christ Jesus** were **baptized into His death?**

4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in **newness of life. [new birth!]**

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Mark 16:16

16 "He who believes **and is baptized** will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

Acts 2:38

38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you **be baptized** in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 22:16

16 'And now why are you waiting? Arise and **be baptized**, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.'

Galatians 3:27

27 For as many of you as were **baptized into Christ** have put on Christ.

1 Peter 3:21

21 There is also an antitype which **now saves us: baptism** (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

“Marriage”

- Peggy ⇒ what to think about George???
- George ⇒ “sweet talk” (Peggy changes attitude)
- Peggy’s new attitude ⇒ changed her life (actions)
- Peggy ⇒ loves George (but no marriage yet)
- Marriage ceremony ⇒ legally married now
- Marriage ceremony ⇒ changed her state

“Marriage” (Salvation)

- Sinner ⇒ what to think about God???
- God ⇒ “sweet talk” (sinner changes attitude)
- Sinner’s new attitude ⇒ changes his life (actions)
- Sinner ⇒ loves God (but no marriage yet)
- Marriage ceremony (baptism) ⇒ legally married now
- Marriage ceremony (baptism) ⇒ changed his state

Objection to Water Baptism:

“Water” refers to natural birth from a mother's womb – not baptism!

Matthew 3:5-6

5 Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him

6 and were **baptized by him in the Jordan**, confessing their sins.

John 4:1

1 Therefore, when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that **Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John**

Baptism Required:

- to become disciples (Mt 28:19)
- to be saved (Mk 16:16)
- for remission of sins (Acts 2:38)
- to wash away sins (Acts 22:16)
- to get into Christ (Rom 6:3-4)
- because it saves us now (1 Pet 3:21)

T. W. Brents:

“Is there any man out of a lunatic asylum who could believe that any one of these quibbles would ever have been thought of had it not been necessary to devise some means to save some theory from being destroyed by the obvious meaning of the Savior’s language?”

(Gospel Plan 163)

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8 "The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Alexander Campbell:

“In one sense a person is born of his father; but not until he is first born of his mother. So in every place where **water and the Spirit**, or **water and the word**, are spoken of, the water stands first. Every child is born of its father when it is born of its mother. Hence, the Savior put the mother first, and the apostles follow him. No other reason can be assigned for placing the water first.”

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Ephesians 5:26

26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the **washing of water** by **the word**,

Titus 3:5

5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through **the washing of regeneration** and **renewing of the Holy Spirit,**

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πνεύμα

John 3

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8 “The **Spirit** breathes where He wishes, and you hear the sound of Him, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So (by hearing the voice of the Spirit) is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

1 John 4:6

6 We are of God. He who knows God **hears us**; he who is not of God does not hear us. **By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.**

Conclusion

Verse 3: The necessity of new birth.

Verse 5: How to be born again.

- Begotten by the Spirit (word)
- Born of water (baptism)

Verse 8: By hearing, believing voice of the Spirit (word of God) ⇒ born of the Spirit.