

Born of the Spirit

What you are about to read is the most important thing that you can ever read, the most life changing information that you could ever know or receive.

Why? Because it determines the quality of your life both now, and for all eternity!

It does not come from me or some other ordinary human being, but from the most unique person who ever lived upon this earth.

The major religions all acknowledge him as a great teacher, and so He was. But He is much more than that. Early Jewish and Christian leaders recognized Him as a miracle worker. Mohammed wrote of Him in the Koran as the Messiah who healed many. And when a Jewish leader came to Him, Jesus of Nazareth, to ask questions, the first thing He told him was that he needed "to be born again" (Greek word: "anothen" meaning "again, anew, from above" - John, chapter 3). The Lord Jesus, who said that He had come from Heaven and was recognized as having taken part with God the Father and the Holy Spirit in the

creation of this world and universe, told Nicodemus, this very respected and high level religious leader, that he needed to be born of the Spirit. He said that a person that is "**born of the flesh** (meaning all of us who have ever been born, born of the natural, earthly parents of a man and woman) **is flesh**," but what is needed is for one to be "**born of the Spirit**," born of God who is spirit (John 4:24) — to be not just born as part of God's creation, but additionally born of the heavenly realm with God as one's heavenly Father. Jesus further explained that unless someone is "**born of water and of the Spirit**" he can not enter or even see the kingdom of God, the realm where God lives and rules in all His majestic glory.

You see, my friend, all human beings are born naturally with a sinful nature, meaning ever since the fall of Adam & Eve into sin, we are born separated from God, actually enemies of God through our self-willed, selfish, independent nature. We need a new nature, one like God's. And when we receive God as our heavenly Father, we receive His divine nature, a nature of love and peace, a nature of forgiveness and grace, of mercy and faith, an unselfish nature (2 Peter 1:4; John 1:12-13),

all because of His great love and mercy (John 3).

You might ask then, what does water have to do with this? Water baptism (and the word means immersion in Greek) is the sign that we want to be part of God's covenant people now, and His eternal kingdom of people for ever, and we are willing to publicly acknowledge and confess the Lord Jesus Christ as our own personal savior, who was beaten and crucified and died on the cross to pay the penalty for all of our sins, was buried, and was raised from the dead by the power of God. Water baptism by immersion symbolically portrays this. God is a covenant making and keeping God. The prophet Jeremiah spoke of this New Covenant hundreds of years before the Lord came the first time as born supernaturally of the virgin (Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 8:8-13, 10:16-31; Luke 1:26-35). When the first people heard the message after Jesus was raised from the dead and taken back up into heaven from where He came from, and asked what they should do to be saved, they were told:

"Repent (that means change you mind and heart and turn away from all sin and wrongdoing), **and be baptized**

in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, which is for you, your children, whoever the Lord God should call unto Himself” (Acts 2:38-42).

When anyone receives the Holy Spirit, either spontaneously as on the day of Pentecost or later as we read (Acts 2, 8, 10, 19), or by having hands laid upon them and prayer for this precious promised gift to be given, the Spirit of God then enters them, and they are then born of the Holy Spirit and God becomes their spiritual Father, and they become part of His eternal family that is destined to live in heaven with Him, the holy angels, and all the people of God forever and ever, where there is no sadness, crying, sickness, pain, death or dying ever.

If we reject this precious gift of love and eternal life that God offers us freely by His grace and to our unmerited favor, then we have to receive the punishment due us for our own sins, which is eternal separation from God and His family. The place for that is a “lake of fire” that was prepared for the devil and his angels, but that has now become open to those humans who rebel against a loving,

forgiving God and refuse to repent, turn away from their sins in order to receive a new nature, God’s divine nature that can and wants to live by the power of His Spirit according to His ways of love and peace, forgiveness and grace, mercy and eternal abundant life. Won’t you receive Jesus today as your own Lord and Savior, King of kings, and Lord of Lords? Just talk to Him (that’s what prayer is) and tell Him you want to be baptized and be part of His eternal family. That you want to be “born of His Spirit!”

I have this experience and so have millions of others around the world. God wants this for you also. Talk to Him. He’s listening.

Contact us if you would like any further help.

Free teachings are also available at:

www.JohnRothacker.org

Perhaps the first chapter of the book, “The church” would be helpful.

John Rothacker Ministries
P.O. Box 3219
Columbus, Ohio 43210