

BORN AGAIN CHRISTIANS.

6/23/2024 AM

INTRODUCTION:

A. Read the text: Read: John 3:1-7.

B. Regarding the text:

1. Nicodemus came to Jesus at night to ask a question.
2. Jesus told Nicodemus what he needed to hear to be saved (**vs. 3**).
3. Nicodemus asked Jesus to clarify (**vs. 4**).
4. Jesus gave the clarification (**vs. 5-7**).
 - 1) "... except a man be born of water and of the Spirit."
 - 2) The phrase **EXCEPT** is exclusive. In other words, if and only if!

DISCUSSION: THE NEW BIRTH REQUIRES.

I. TO BE BORN OF WATER.

A. What is the meaning of "born of water?"

1. Some say this is the physical birth. Question: Is the physical birth necessary for salvation?
2. Jesus is not talking about physical birth in **verse 6**.
 - 1) He is not talking about physical birth, but spiritual.
 - 2) It is not possible to be physically born again!

B. What the context demands.

1. What about the immediate context?
2. There is nothing within the immediate context to indicate that water means anything other than plain ordinary water.
3. One rule of proper interpretation is that you take the simplest explanation first.
4. What is the next reference to water in the immediate text?
 - 1) **John 3:22-23**.
 - 2) How would Nicodemus have understood this statement?

C. How about other verses dealing with water baptism?

1. **Acts 2:38** "be baptized."
2. **Acts 22:16** "WASH away your sins."
3. **Acts 8:36** "And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?"
4. **Ephesians 5:26** "the washing of water by the word."
5. **Titus 3:5** "he saved us, by the washing of regeneration..." Regeneration means rebirth.

D. No accountable person can be saved without water baptism (1 Peter 3:20-21**).**

II. TO BE BORN OF THE SPIRIT.

A. Being born of the Spirit means letting the Spirit of God rule our lives through His word.

1. **John 6:63**.
2. **1 Peter 1:22-23**.
3. **2 Thessalonians 2:14**.
4. **James 1:18**.

B. When we are obedient to that word we are born of the Spirit.

1. **Romans 8:1**.
2. **John 15:3**.

C. The word given by the Spirit brings us to Christ and can keep us in Him.

III. TO ENTER THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

A. What is the kingdom of God?

1. **John 3:3** "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."
2. It is the church (**Matthew 16:18-19**; **Colossians 1:13**).

B. How does one enter the kingdom (the church)?

1. **Acts 2:37-47.**
2. **1 Cor. 12:13.**

IV. CONCLUSION:

A. We must be born again. Being born again means...

1. Being born of water.
2. Being born of the Spirit.
3. Being born into the kingdom of God.

B. We must learn and obey the gospel.

1. **Rom. 10:17** Learn and obey the word.
2. **Acts 2:38** "be baptized."
3. **Rev. 2:10** be faithful the rest of your life!