

THE NEW BIRTH

God created man in His image and likeness.-**Genesis 1:27**. Originally, man was created for God's own glory- **Isaiah 47:3**. What we must know is, man lost the glory and the former estate into which God created him through sin-**Romans 3:2**. For man to have this glory back, there must be a new birth. Immediately after the natural birth you are declared sinful and fleshly- **John 3:6, Psalm 51:5**

Just as we are born naturally into a natural and fleshly family, for a soul to be saved into eternal life, the person must be born anew into a spiritual and God's family.-**John 1:12-13**

The first Adam was fleshly and earthly but the second Adam is spiritual and heavenly-**1 Corinthians 15:44-50, Romans 5:8, 12, 14, and 19**

What it means to be born again

It is imperative to have a critical look at the conversation between the Lord God Jesus Christ and Nichodemus, a ruler of the Jews and a Pharisee in **John 3:1-8**.

A critical study about the new birth Jesus talked about, brings to light the following facts:

- ✚ Without this new birth experience, no man can ever have the lost glory back- **verse 3**
- ✚ Nichodemus was thinking of the natural birth whiles Jesus Christ was talking about spiritual birth-**verse 4**
- ✚ Just as man is born naturally of the sperm and ovary, so as he must be born of the spirit and of water to be saved-**verse 5**
- ✚ Just as the natural birth is sealed with the cry of the baby(a sound), the spiritual birth is sealed with speaking of new tongue(a sound) – **verse 8**

To be born of water

Water Baptism comes from the Greek word “**baptizo**” which means to **dip, plunge** or **immerse** in water. In **Acts 8:28-39**.... “And they went down **INTO** the water both Philip and the Eunuch...” verse 39 says, “And when they were up, **OUT** of the water...” (Reference: I Corinthians. 10:1-3).

Baptism in Jesus Name is the Apostolic **FAITH** and the Apostolic Church followed it exclusively (Acts 2:38; Acts 8:16; Acts 10:48; Acts 22:16)

The Apostolic **FAITH** is the **Foundation** of our **Christianity** and we are to Build and earnestly contend for the faith (Eph. 4:5; Ephesians 2:20; I Corinthians 3:11; Jude 3-4)

The Apostolic **FAITH** of **Baptism** in Jesus Name is an evidence in Heaven (Rev. 21: 12-14)

Baptism in Jesus Name is a **BURIAL** with Jesus Christ (Ecclesiastes 6:3; Romans 6:4)

Baptism in Jesus Name is to **DIE** with Christ (Romans 6:3)

Baptism in Jesus Name is a **PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION** with Jesus Christ. His name identifies us as his possession (Acts 15:14, 17)

Paul who was not part of the Apostles was Baptized and He confirms **Baptism** in Jesus Name (I Corinthians 1:10-16, Acts 9:1-18, Acts 19:1-7)

Baptism in Jesus Name is for the **REMISSION OF SINS** (Acts 2:38; Luke 24:44-47)

The Name of Jesus Christ represents all the **POWER** and **AUTHORITY** of God and makes it available to us (Matthew. 28:18; John 14:14; Acts 3:6, 16)

Everything we do in Word or Deed should be done in the Name of Jesus Christ (Colossians 3:17). Baptism in Jesus Name is both **WORD** and **DEED**.

Jesus Christ is the **HIGHEST NAME** known to mankind and every knee bow down to that name (Philippians 2:9-11)

Baptism in Jesus Name is a **SALVATION** to Heaven and without it you are not saved (Acts 4:12; Mark 16:15-16; John 3:3-5)

Baptism in Jesus Name is the **OUTWARD** Act of an **INWARD** confession signifying the acceptance of Jesus Christ as Our Lord and Saviour (Acts 8:12; Acts 8:37-39).

Baptism in Jesus Name is a **RESEMBLANCE** of the Ark of Noah which also saves us (I Peter 3:19-21)

Baptism in Jesus Name is to **PUT ON CHRIST** (Galatians 3:27)

Baptism in Jesus Name make us the **DESCENDANTS** and **SEED** of Abraham and heirs according to his promise (Gal 3: 27-29)

Baptism in Jesus Name is a **CIRCUMCISION** and a **COVENANT** with God (Genesis 17:9-10; Colossians 2: 11-12)

Baptism in Jesus Name is one of the **KEYS** to the Kingdom of God given to Peter (Matt 16:18-19; Acts 15:7; John 17:20; Acts 2:38-39).

Please note that, Water Baptism can be done more than **ONCE** if you have not gotten the right Baptism in the name of **JESUS CHRIST** (Acts 19:1-7). Baptism in Father, Son and Holy Ghost does not take away sin. They are titles but not names. Only the name **JESUS** saves us (Acts 4:12).

To be born of the Spirit

The Holy Ghost is **JESUS CHRIST** dwelling in us (John 14:17-18). Acts 2:38 says...And ye shall receive the **GIFT** of the **HOLY GHOST**. The **Sign** of the Holy Ghost is to speak in **Tongues** (Isaiah 28:11; Acts 10:44-48; Acts 19:5-6; Acts 2:1-4).

Why the need for the Holy Ghost/Spirit baptism

It makes you God's own. (Romans 8:9, 8:14)

A seal of ownership (Ephesians 1:13-14)

A seal of rapture (Ephesians 4:30)

It gives us power (Acts 1:8)

It guides us into all truth (John 16:13)

It shows us things to come (John 14:26)

It helps us in prayers (Romans 8:26)

It searches all things (I Corinthians 2:10)

It gives us liberty (II Corinthians 3:17)

Without the Holy Spirit one cannot **ENTER** heaven (John 3:5)

So Brethren, the **GOSPEL** of **CHRIST** (I cor. 15:1-4) which is foolishness to those who perish (I Corinthians. 1:18) and is the **POWER** of **GOD** into **SALVATION** (Romans 1:16). This is the **ONLY** Gospel that should be preached (Galatians.1:8-9, II Cor. 11:1-4) in all Nations (Matthew 24:14; Mark 16:15-16). To conclude, **WOE** unto anyone who does not preach this Gospel (I Corinthians. 9:16).

Some scriptural examples of new birth

Jerusalem	Acts 2:38
Samaria	Acts 8:12-17
The Ethiopian Eunuch	Acts 8:26-40
Saul	Acts 9:17-19
Caesarea	Acts 10:44-48
Ephesus	Acts 19:1-7