

The New Birth John 3:1-21

I. **"Born Again"**

- Commonly used phrase is "born again Christian"
 - Is a repetitive expression.
 - Every Christian has been born again.
- But what does it mean to be "born again"?
 - The Bible uses the expression "born again" only a few times...
- Jesus in His conversation with Nicodemus - **Jn 3:3,5,7**
- Peter in his first epistle - **1 Pet. 1:3,23 (cf. Jn 1:13; 1 Jn 5:1)**

II. **Necessity of the New Birth (1-3)**

• **TO SEE THE KINGDOM OF GOD...**

- Unless one is born again, he cannot see (enter) the kingdom (**Jn 3:3,5,7**)
- What is the kingdom of God?
 - The rule and reign of God in the person of Christ. (**Mt 28:18; Ac 2:36**)
 - A spiritual kingdom not of this world. (**Jn 18:36; Lk 17:20-21**)
 - A kingdom made up of faithful subjects (i.e., the church). (**Co 1:13**)
 - A kingdom both present and future. (**Mt 13:41-43; 1 Co 15:24-26**)

• **NECESSARY TO BE SAVED...**

- To be in the kingdom is to be saved from the powers of darkness. (**Col. 1:13**)
- Salvation requires a rebirth, a regeneration. (**Titus 3:5**)

III. **Nature of the New Birth (4-5)**

• **INVOLVES BOTH WATER AND THE SPIRIT...**

- One birth: two elements - water and the Spirit
 - Not two births (born of water and born of the Spirit)
 - But one birth (born of water and the Spirit)
- Compare Paul's description. (**Titus 3:5**)
 - A washing of regeneration (water)
 - And renewing of the Holy Spirit (Spirit)

• **Jn. 3:5** ----- **Titus 3:5**

—...Except a man be born

- of water and ----- by the washing of regeneration
- of the Spirit, ----- renewing of the Holy Ghost
- he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.----- he saved us

IV. **The New Birth Involves The Word of God (4-5)**

- One is born again by the Word. (**1 Pet. 1:23; 25; Jn. 16:7; Eph. 6:17; Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16**)

V. **Basis For the New Birth (14-18)**

- The sacrificial death of Jesus. (**Jn. 3:14; Num. 21:4-9**)
- The love of God. (**Jn. 3:16; 1 Jn. 4:9-10**)
- The obedient faith of the sinner. (**Jn. 3:16, 36; Js. 2:17,19,24,26**)