

What Does It Mean To Be BORN AGAIN?

(John 3:3). There is only one way to enter the kingdom! You must be BORN AGAIN!

A person does not need money to get to heaven. A person does not need education to get to heaven. A person does not need rank or high position to get to heaven. But there is one thing that is needed if anyone is to get to heaven: A NEW BIRTH! Those who are not BORN AGAIN will never see God's Kingdom (John 3:3).

Nicodemus did not understand what Jesus meant by the words "BORN AGAIN" (see John 3:4). He asked, "How can a man be born when he is old? Certainly he can't enter the second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?" (John 3:4, this rendering reflects the Greek text). He knew that a person could not reenter his mother's womb and be born a second time in a physical way. This would be impossible. What did Jesus really mean?

Look at the answer Jesus gave to Nicodemus in John 3:5-6. Jesus made it very clear that He was talking about a spiritual birth ("born of the Spirit"), not a physical birth. Man's first birth was physical ("born of the flesh") and man's second birth must be spiritual ("born of the Spirit"). It is something that the Spirit of God must do!

"Born of Water and of the Spirit"

What did Jesus mean when He said that a person must be born of water and of the Spirit (see John 3:5)? This is a verse of Scripture that has often been misunderstood. In fact, there are many who believe that "the water" refers to WATER BAPTISM. They would say something like this: Unless you are baptized in water you cannot enter into the kingdom of God and you cannot be saved. This is not true. Water baptism is important, but water baptism does not save anyone. Water baptism is not something that a person does to be saved. Water baptism is something that a saved person does!

[For a detailed study on this question see our study [Does Water Baptism Save?](#)]

Jesus was not talking about physical water which can only cleanse a person on the outside. In John 3:5 Jesus was talking about SPIRITUAL CLEANSING (something that must happen on the inside of a person). To be clean on the outside a person must take a bath and use soap and water! To be clean on the inside there is another kind of bath that is needed. Soap and water can never remove the filth of sin!

God must do something on the inside of a person. Let's see what the Bible says about being born of water and of the Spirit:

John 3:3 says that if a person is going to see the kingdom he must be _____



John 3:5 says that if a person is going to enter the kingdom he must be _____ of _____ and of the _____

Therefore, being *born again* means the same thing as being *born of water and of the Spirit*. If a person has been born again, then this person has been born of water and of the Spirit.

Water is the one thing we use whenever we wash something. *Water is the universal cleansing agent*. If you *wash* your car, what do you use? _____ If you *wash* your face, what do you use? _____ To make your clothes bright and *clean*, what do you use? _____ To make your teeth *clean*, you not only use toothpaste, but you also use _____. It is easy to see how WATER can be symbolic of CLEANSING (making something clean)!

Sinners need to be *washed* and *made clean*. Jesus wanted Nicodemus to know something very important: NO UNCLEAR PERSON CAN ENTER GOD'S KINGDOM! God says that *NO UNCLEAR PERSON* has any inheritance in the _____ of Christ and of God (Ephesians 5:5 and see also Galatians 5:21 and Revelation 21:27). To enter the kingdom a person must be CLEAN and WASHED on the inside (sins forgiven!). No unwashed people will be admitted! No unclear person will enter the kingdom of God. Only *cleansed sinners* will be allowed in heaven! You must be born of water! You must be washed!

PRAY THE FOLLOWING PRAYER RIGHT NOW AS YOU READ IT

Dear God in heaven, I come to you in the name of Jesus. I acknowledge to You that I am a sinner, and I am sorry for my sins and the life that I have lived; I need your forgiveness.

I believe that your only begotten Son Jesus Christ shed His precious blood on the cross at Calvary and died for my sins, and I am now willing to turn from my sin.

You said in Your Holy Word, Romans 10:9 that if we confess the Lord our God and believe in our hearts that God raised Jesus from the dead, we shall be saved.

Right now I confess Jesus as the Lord of my soul. With my heart, I believe that God raised Jesus from the dead. This very moment I accept Jesus Christ as my own personal Savior and according to His Word, right now I am saved.

Thank you Jesus for your unlimited grace which has saved me from my sins. I thank you Jesus that your grace never leads to license, but rather it always leads to repentance. Therefore Lord Jesus transform my life so that I may bring glory and honor to you alone and not to myself.

**Thank you Jesus for dying for me and giving me eternal life.
In Jesus Name, Amen.**