

We Can Not Be A Christian If We Have Not Been Born Again

Acts 11:25–26 (NIV) — (25) Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, **(26)** and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.

1 Peter 4:16 (NIV) — (16) However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.

I) What Does It Mean To Be Born Again?

John 3:1–15 (NIV) — (1) Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. **(2)** He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him.” **(3)** In reply Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.” **(4)** “How can a man be born when he is old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb to be born!” **(5)** Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. **(6)** Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. **(7)** You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ **(8)** The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.” **(9)** “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked. **(10)** “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? **(11)** I tell you the truth, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. **(12)** I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? **(13)** No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. **(14)** Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, **(15)** that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.

II) Why Is Being Born Again Necessary?

Psalms 5:9 (NIV) — (9) Not a word from their mouth can be trusted; their heart is filled with destruction. Their throat is an open grave; with their tongue they speak deceit.

Psalms 14:2–3 (NIV) — (2) The LORD looks down from heaven on the sons of men to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God. **(3)** All have turned aside, they have together become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.

Romans 8:7–8 (NIV) — (7) the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so. **(8)** Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

Genesis 3:15 (NIV) — (15) And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

Ezekiel 36:26–27 (NIV) — (26) I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. **(27)** And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

III) How Do I Receive This New Birth?

1 Peter 1:3–4 (NIV) — (3) Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **(4)** and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you,

IV) What Happens When We Are Born Again?

2 Corinthians 5:17–18 (NIV) — (17) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! **(18)** All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:

V) How Can I Tell That I Am Born Again?

VI) Five Things All Christians Have