

“Born Again”

John 3:1-5

Introduction

- I. Whenever we sin for the first time, we no longer are innocent in the eyes of the Lord (Rom. 6:23).
- II. Without a change, our souls will be punished forever (Luke 13:3).
- III. It is at this time that we need to be “born again”!

Discussion

- I. Being “born again” is essential to salvation (John 3:1-5).
 - A. Let us notice Nicodemus.
 1. Pharisee
 2. A ruler of the Jews/master of the Jews
 3. His name means “victorious”.
 4. Defended Jesus (John 7:50-52).
 5. Was instrumental in the burial of Jesus (John 19:38-40).
 6. Nicodemus came to Jesus with an open mind (cf. John 8:48, 52; Mark 3:22).
 - B. Without being “born again”, man cannot see God, nor enter the kingdom of God (John 3:3, 5).
 - C. Being a Jew, Nicodemus would have thought that his physical birth was enough to be in the kingdom of God (cf. That others were not as willing to listen and learn; John 6:66-68).
- II. How does one become “born again” (John 3:5-13)?
 - A. John had already been baptizing and preaching repentance for the remission of sins (Mark 1:4).
 - B. Baptism is the dividing line of death and “born again” (Rom. 6:1-6; “new creature”).
 - C. Obedience to the law of Christ, which includes baptism for the remission of sins, is absolutely essential to be “born again” (1 Pet. 1:22-23).
- III. Being “born again” is therefore possible and attainable (John 3:14-21).
 - A. The lifting of the serpent gave “new life” to those who were dying (Num. 21).
 1. They still had to look at the serpent.
 2. Refusal to look at the serpent resulted in death.
 - B. Jesus has been lifted, and as such, offers “new life” to those who are dying.
 1. We must still look to Jesus.
 2. Obeying His Word give “new life” (Heb. 5:9).

Conclusion

- I. Have you been “born again” according to the Scriptures?
- II. The only one keeping you from a “new life” in Christ is you.