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SPIRIT OF LIFE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL
MINISTRY SCHOOL
SESSION 64 – THE NEW BIRTH PART 1

THE NEW BIRTH

It is of the utmost importance that we have a clear understanding of what Jesus meant when speaking with Nicodemus and said, ***“Ye must be born again.”*** (John 3:3; 5). The new birth is a spiritual birth. It is as much a birth as the natural birth; it is not just a figure of speech. The first birth is of the “seed of man.” The second birth is of the “seed of God” (I Peter 1:23). Therefore you cannot become a child of God by joining the church any more than a monkey could become a man by joining the human race. He may act like a man, dress like a man, and try to live like a man –but he would still be a monkey. Now, if by some miracle the monkey could be born again of the “seed of man,” then – and only then – could he become a man. The only way to become a child of God is to be “born from above” by the “incorruptible seed of God.”

What is the new birth?

1. The new birth is a new creation – II Cor. 5:17
2. The New birth is a spiritual resurrection – Eph. 1:15-2:1-9
3. The new birth is regeneration – Titus 3:4
4. The new birth is partaking of the divine nature of God -- II Peter 1:4
5. The new birth is receiving Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord by faith – John 1:12
6. The new birth is compulsory if you are to become a child of God: ***“Ye MUST be born again.”***

Jesus and the two births

In John 3:3 and 8 we see Jesus and Nicodemus face to face – Jesus the Son of God, and Nicodemus the son of natural man. Nicodemus was a very religious man, but he was not a child of God. What a shock it must have been to learn that his religion was not enough! ***It never is!***

He came to Jesus, addressing Him as “a teacher come from God.” Jesus knew Nicodemus, as He knows all men (John 2:24-25).

1. Jesus knew that he needed more than a teacher – he needed a Saviour.
2. He needed more than religion – he needed regeneration.
3. He needed more than law – he needed life.

Jesus began by going right to the point when He said, ***“Ye must be born again.”*** Nicodemus asked, “How can a man be born when he is old?” Then Jesus pointed out the dissimilarity in the two births: (verse 6)

1. That which is born of the flesh is flesh (the flesh will never change.)
2. That which is born of the Spirit is spirit.” The Spirit will never change.

First, let us take a brief look at the flesh birth:

1. It produces an old, sinful nature (Ps. 51:5)
2. It produces a corruptible nature (I Peter 1:23)
3. It produces an old nature under the sentence of death (Romans 6:23)
4. It produces an old nature that makes every unsaved person a child of the devil. (I John 3:10; John 8:44)

Second, let us look at the new birth.

1. It produces a sinless nature (I John 3:9)
2. It produces a nature than cannot sin (I John 3:9)
3. It produces a righteous nature (II Cor. 5:21)
4. It produces a divine nature (II Peter 1:4)

Every born-again person has two natures: the old from the old birth, and the new from the new birth. By the old birth we are children of the flesh; by the new birth we are the children of God. This is why we must be born again.