

# Regeneration/New Birth

‘the work of God in my soul that leads me to believe, and that work may precede salvation by some time.’

- **Acts 26:14** implies that Paul was resisting the voice of the Spirit for a period before he was actually saved. *The work had begun, but he wasn't actually 'saved' until he met Jesus on the Damascus Road.*
- New birth **must precede** salvation because without a work of God in the soul I **would never even want to be saved**. I am not merely lost, but dead (**see Eph. 2: 1**) **We are so bad, and so sinful we don't WANT to be saved!** Its only by God's grace we are! *I only respond to the Gospel because of a prior work of God in the soul. We cannot even see (John 3: 3) let alone enter (v 5) the kingdom of God.*
- The flesh cannot be made suited to God: it remains flesh (see v 6). It's not a repair job! God can't work with our old sinful selves, there needs to be something **\*NEW!\***  
*“That which is born of the flesh is flesh ...  
Do not wonder that I said to thee, It is needful that ye should be born anew.” (John 3: 6, 7)*
- **Regeneration and new birth are connected but not identical.** Tit 2:5 as a believer, I am brought into connection with a **new state of things** as being “in Christ”. takes us above and beyond new birth. *The prodigal experienced new birth in the far country, but that did not bring him into the new state of things until he got home.*
- **Washing- Getting rid of everything that was of our old sinful state.** Titus 3:5; see John 13: 10 - we are washed all over through new birth, but we also need **cleansing day by day.** *We are born of water initially, but also need daily moral cleansing that comes through the reading of/listening to the Scriptures applied to our souls by the Spirit.*



Water is a symbol of the Word.

- Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his path? by taking heed according to thy word. Psalm 119: 9. ...  
Purifying [it] by the washing of water by [the] word. -Eph. 5: 25
- 1 Pet 1:23- **being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by [the] living and abiding word of God.** *this makes it very clear that the glad tidings is the means by which the Word is brought to bear on the soul (by the Spirit of course). S The Spirit applies the Word to our souls in convicting power, and we are born again. We are born of **water (the Word)** and of **Spirit**.*

# Propitiation

‘making peace with God’

We **don't** have the ability to make peace with God on our side.



- it was because “**he loved us**” that he “**sent his Son a propitiation for our sins**” (1 John 4: 10). *God is for the sinner not against him. He provided the propitiation **Himself** in order that there might be a righteous basis by which He could act in blessing towards sinful man.*
- The Bible often connects propitiation with the mercy seat: Rom. 3: 25: “**Whom God has set forth a mercy-seat, through faith in his blood**”
- The mercy seat was where the blood was sprinkled from the sacrifices in the Old Testament. *The blood allowed God to cover the sins of the children of Israel.*
- For us the blood being on the mercy-seat means that God is able to bless the sinner, as the righteous demands of God (as regards sin) have been met in Jesus. *The perfect offering.*
- In order to get the benefits, you (the sinner) have to identify yourself with the offering. So in the OT, the priest would ‘**lay his hand on the bullock's head** – see Lev. 3: 4) so the worth of the offering was transferred to the person offering it. *We have to identify ourselves with Jesus in order to be able shelter under His blood.*

man is totally incapable of  
satisfying God's justice

*except by spending eternity in hell*

# Reconciliation

‘God has annulled (by his grace) the distance that sin had brought between himself and man, in order that all things might be (through Christ) presented to him himself.’

Basically it is God moving from His own side, to remove the gap that sin had created between us, and a Holy God. When we are reconciled, it means that the gap has been removed and God can draw near to us.

**It is not like  
politics where  
both sides make  
a move**

*the move is  
entirely from  
God`s side*

**The bringing  
entirely together  
two estranged  
parties**

*the gap is not  
bridged but  
entirely  
removed*

# Adoption

‘You become a son, and get all blessings that come with that.’

- Gal 4:5,6- that he might redeem those under law, that we might receive sonship.- we don't come into the **FULNESS** of the inheritance until we are glorified. *That is why we have the Spirit as the downpayment of our inheritance*
- And not only [that], but even *\*we\** ourselves, who have the first-fruits of the Spirit, we also ourselves groan in ourselves, awaiting adoption, [that is] the redemption of our body. Rom 8:15-23



**Tis as sons foreknown we bless Thee;  
None but sons can "Abba" say.**



Of course the relationship between the Son (Jesus) and the Father (God) remains forever distinct. We are sons, but He is the **only-begotten** Son. So Jesus doesn't say 'I ascend to **our** Father'. Instead he says '**my** Father and **your** Father.'

*The Holy Spirit is the one who gives the relationship living power.*

Previously God was to be worshipped as the Creator, as the Almighty, as Jehovah, but now we know Him as our **FATHER!**

# Salvation

'deliverance or preservation from danger.'



- Jesus said "Father, save me from this hour" (John 12: 27)
- Peter cried out to be saved when he was in danger of drowning.
- God preserved (or saved) Noah from the flood (see 2 Pet. 2: 5)

We are "saved by grace" (Eph. 5: 25) - *that refers to the salvation of the soul- initial salvation-getting right with God.*

**BUT** we also need salvation (or preservation) every day from the world

Israel were saved from the judgement of the destroying angel by the blood on the door-posts and lintel, but they were saved from Egypt by the waters of the Red Sea. *So, we are to work out our own salvation (See Phil. 2: 12).*

We **HAVE** been saved from the **PENALTY** of sin  
We **ARE BEING** saved from the **POWER** of sin  
We **WILL BE** saved from the **PRESENCE** of sin

The final thought of salvation is that we are taken to see our Lord Jesus face to face!  
(see Rom. 8: 23, 24; 13: 11; Heb. 9: 28).



# Justification

‘Jesus is Righteous. Everything that Jesus is, is attributed to us. God looks on us as He looks upon Jesus.’

(2 Corinthians 5:21-God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.).Romans 5:18-so then as [it was] by one offence towards all men to condemnation, so by one righteousness towards all men for justification of life.

- The believer being accounted righteous. **We are viewed by God as completely righteous**, not just clean of our sins, but more, in Christ.

## ~~JUST-AS-IF-I-NEVER-SINNED~~

- In the death of Christ, there has been a complete removal and judgment of sins (just as if you had never sinned), but it is **more** than having sins removed, **more** than going back to Eden (where God viewed his creature in innocence), we are viewed in a **positive** light by God!

**We are viewed by God as completely righteous!**



**BUT** Justification goes further.

*We are put into a place where God can look on us as not just forgiven sinners, but righteous persons. Basically, when God looks at us, He sees his Son. Everything His Son is for Him, we now are.*

# Sanctification

'to be set apart'



## 2 Parts:

1) John 17:16-They are not of the world, as I am not of the world.

- Sanctification is being separated by God from the world, all believers enter into this state when they are born of God: "But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption" *You become distinct from the rest of the world, whether you like it or not. You are different. You have a different focus. You have a different goal. You have a different destiny.*
- (1 Corinthians 1:30-But of him are *\*ye\** in Christ Jesus, who has been made to us wisdom from God, and righteousness, and holiness, and redemption;.) *This is a once-for-ever separation, eternally unto God.*
- 1 Cor. 1:2- to the assembly of God which is in Corinth, to [those] sanctified in Christ Jesus, called saints, with all that in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both theirs and ours:' *The Corinthians were in a bit of a mess, and yet they were still sanctified. It doesn't matter how messed up your life is, if you belong to Christ. You have been separated by God, forever.*
- Heb 10:10- by which will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

2) Sanctification also refers to the practical experience of this separation unto God

- 1 Peter 1:15- but as he who has called you is holy, be ye also holy in all [your] conversation
- Hebrews 12:14- Pursue peace with all, and holiness, without which no one shall see the Lord *the effect of obedience to the Word of God in your life, is to be pursued by the believer earnestly. Obviously some people have gone to far down the sanctification road. You can't cut yourself off from the world, but you can have eyes fixed on a different one.*

# Glorification

'is being made fully like Christ in every way'

- Romans 8:18- For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy [to be compared] with the coming glory to be revealed to us.
- 2 Corinthians 4:17-For our momentary [and] light affliction works for us in surpassing measure an eternal weight of glory;
- 1 Corinthians 13:12-For we see now through a dim window obscurely, but then face to face; now I know partially, but then I shall know according as I also have been known. *Final glorification must await the return of Jesus (Titus 2:13; 1 Timothy 6:14). Until He returns, we are burdened with sin.*
- we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye" (1 Corinthians 15:51)
- then our perishable bodies will put on imperishable immortality (1 Corinthians 15:53).
- Every day, we should be diligent by the Spirit to put to death what is earthly in us (Romans 8:13). At the last trumpet, when Jesus comes, the saints will undergo a fundamental, instant transformation*
- 2 Corinthians 3:18-"we all," in the present, "with unveiled face" are "beholding the glory of the Lord" and are being transformed into His image "from one degree of glory to another" (2 Corinthians 3:18). *And yet it goes on now, to a certain degree-as we grow in our Christian pathway, we should be more like him*
- It is a blessing bestowed on every believer. This does not refer to our final glorification, but to an aspect of sanctification by which the Spirit is working in us right now.

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Most of these definitions include the phrases: ...**By Christ, ...through Christ, ...with Christ.** etc. The point is, everything that has been done, and done to the complete satisfaction of God, can only have been accomplished by His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. We only have these many blessings because He has gone before to secure them, for us and for the pleasure of His God and Father.



# -tion Words

'and their definitions'



- **Regeneration & New Birth**
- **Propitiation**
- **Reconciliation**
- **Adoption**
- **Salvation**
- **Justification**
- **Sanctification**
- **Glorification**