



Regeneration: Imparting Divine Life

1. We Need Regeneration

The word *regeneration* is found only two times in the Bible. First, in Matthew 19:28, where it speaks not of the new birth of the Christian but of the restoration of the earth at the second coming of Christ. It is mentioned the second time in Titus 3:5 where one finds the actual renewing and rebirth of the believer mentioned.

- Since the fall of Adam in the garden of Eden, every person (except Jesus Christ) has *been born spiritually dead* in trespasses and sins (Ephesians 2:1-7). To correct this, every individual must be born a *second time* unto righteousness and life (John 3:5-6).
- Our fallenness, and the sins resulting from it, is totally contrary to God and brings His *wrath* on the individual (John 3:18, 36; Galatians 3:10; 4:8; Ephesians 2:12; 4:18; 1 Thessalonians 4:5; etc.). Those who refuse God's gift of regeneration will *permanently* feel His wrath in the lake of fire (Revelation 20:15).

2. God provides Regeneration

- A person becomes regenerated when he hears the gospel, repents, and by faith *receives* Jesus Christ as his personal Savior (Titus 3:5; James 1:18; Peter 1:23).
- Regeneration is a literal *birth* into God's family where the believer actually becomes God's child (Romans 8:14-16; 1 John 3:1-2; 5:1; 1 Peter 1:3).
- When a person receives Christ, his spirit, which was dead in Adam, is instantly *reborn* by the Holy Spirit (John 3:6). After this, he is no longer in Adam but "in Christ" (Romans 8:1-11). This birth is as real as a person's physical birth from his parents (John 3:5-6).
- It enables the believer to call upon God as his father, and upon the Lord Jesus Christ as his elder brother (Romans 8:15-29; Galatians 4:6; Hebrews 2:10-13).

- It also makes the believer a "*new creature*." (2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 6:15)
- Every Christian is to grow and become mature and make no provision for the old way of life. (Romans 13:14; 2 Corinthians 5:15, 7:1; Galatians 5:16; 1 Peter 2:2; 2 Peter 3:18)

3. New Life is Permanent

- Since the life a Christian receives is Christ's own life, it is therefore *eternal life* (John 3:15-16, 5:24, 6:40,48, 10:28-30; Romans 6:22; 1 John 2:25, 5:11-13; etc.)
- The father and child relationship between God and the regenerated believer *cannot be broken*. Regardless of what may happen in a Christian's life, he will always be God's child (John 10:28-30).
- The believer is born again by "*incorruptible seed*" (the word of God), thus he "*liveth and abideth forever*" (1 Peter 1:23).

LESSONS

- ✓ We are the ones truly living, the lost are truly dead.
- ✓ We should treat our past as the past – we are new creatures.
- ✓ We should enjoy the living relationship we have with God
- ✓ Victory of sin is possible.
- ✓ This news is too good not to share.
- ✓ God gives life – we can provide the right environment.

