

# Born to Be Born Again

## Feast of Tabernacles



By Randall Ricker October, 2019

Sabbath Church of God

From our Overview of Beliefs:

The festivals are commanded in Leviticus 23. Christ observed the Passover, replacing the lamb with bread and wine, which represented His body and blood (Matthew 26:17-28). The apostles observed Pentecost (Feast of Firstfruits) after Christ's resurrection (Acts 2:1-4).

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# We must be born again

John 3:1-5

1 There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. 2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him." 3 Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, **unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**" 4 Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" 5 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

# Born of the Spirit is spirit

John 3:6-8

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

1 Corinthians 15:47-50

47 The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven. 48 As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly. 49 And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man. 50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption.

# Two births

Romans 1:3-4

3 concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, 4 and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.

Romans 8:29

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Colossians 1:18

18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Revelation 1:5

and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,

# Two births

1 Corinthians 15:20-23

20 But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21 For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. 23 But **each one in his own order**: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming.

1 Corinthians 15:51-54

51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on **immortality**. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

# Two births

Philippians 3:20-21

20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

# What really happens after baptism

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and **you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.**

Romans 8:11

But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead **will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit** who dwells in you.

# What really happens after baptism

Ephesians 5:22-27

22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For **the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church**; and He is the Savior of the body. 24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, 26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, 27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

Hebrews 12:22-23

22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, **the heavenly Jerusalem**, to an innumerable company of angels, 23 to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect,

Galatians 4:26

but the **Jerusalem above** is free, which is **the mother of us all**.



# What really happens after baptism

Ephesians 4:11-13

11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

# “Born” or “begotten”?

1080 gennao: to procreate {to **beget**, **reproduce**} (prop. of the father, but by extens. of the mother); fig. to regenerate {to reform spiritually or morally, to construct anew}: - bear, beget, be born, bring forth, conceive, be delivered of, gender, make, spring."

John 1:13 who were born [or **begotten**], not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

1 John 2:29 If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born [or **begotten**] of Him.

1 John 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born [Interlinear: **begotten**], of God and knows God.

# Born or begotten?

1 John 5:1 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born [or begotten] of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.

1 John 5:4 For whatever is born [or begotten] of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith.

# Translated as “begotten”

1 Corinthians 4:15

For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.

Hebrews 1:5

For to which of the angels did He ever say: "You are My Son, Today I have begotten You"?

# Translated as “born”

1 John 3:9

Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been **born [not begotten]** of God.

1 John 1:8-10

**8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves**, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

1 John 2:1

My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And **if anyone sins**, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

# Translated as “born”

1 John 3:1-2

1 Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. 2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, **we shall be like Him**, for we shall see Him as He is.

# What difference does it make?

1. God's truth is important. We proved from the Bible what it means to be born again.
2. If we think that we are **already** born again, we might believe that we "have it made," and that there is nothing required for us to do.