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You Must Be Born Again!

John 3:1-8
February 12, 2017

I. The Unspoken _____ of the New Birth (vv. 1-2)

II. The Supreme _____ of the New Birth (v. 3)

III. The Unenlightened _____ of the New Birth (v. 4)

IV. The Divine _____ of the New Birth (v. 5)

V. The Clear-cut _____ of the New Birth (v. 6)

VI. The Obvious _____ of the New Birth (v. 7)

VII. The Sovereign _____ of the New Birth (v. 8)

TAKE HOME

- Have you _____ to Jesus to ask your question and to seek His answer?
- Have you been _____ by the water of the Word and _____ by the Spirit?
- Have you been born again by the sovereign _____ of God?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

James 1:22 says, *“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”* These questions are designed to help you apply today’s message to your life. We encourage you to thoughtfully answer these questions and discuss your answers with others. For more information about joining a Small Group that uses these questions as the basis for discussion, prayer, and accountability, please call the church office at (661) 259-2913.

1. Read John 3:1-2. Who is Nicodemus? What is his condition? How does Matt. 23:23-26 help us better understand the Pharisees? How does Rom. 3:20-22 fit in to this discussion?

2. Read John 3:3. How else could “born again” be translated? How does Eph. 2:1, 4-5 help us see this even clearer? Why does Grudem say that regeneration is the “secret act of God?”

3. Read John 3:4. Do you think Nicodemus understood that Jesus was speaking metaphorically? Why or why not? How does 1 Cor. 2:10-14 help us see the need to be enlightened by the Spirit?

4. Read John 3:5. What are the two instruments of the new birth in this verse? How could this be confusing to some? How does Ezek. 26:24-27 and Eph. 5:25-27 help?

5. Read John 3:6. What is the clear-cut integrity of the new birth? How does 1 Cor. 15:50 and Rom. 8:5-9 help us see this more clearly?

6. Read John 3:7. What is meant by the imperativeness of the New Birth? How is the word “must” used in John 3:14; 3:30; 4:24; 10:16; and 20:9?

7. Read John 3:8. What is meant by the word “inspiration” in this point? How do we see this same idea expressed in Ecc. 11:5; Ezek. 37:9; and in 1 Cor. 12:11?

8. Read the take home questions. Which one challenges you or encourages you the most? How can you apply the truths of this passage in your life this week?

*“Just as there are two parents for physical birth, so there are two ‘parents’ for spiritual birth: the Spirit of God and the Word of God.
The Spirit of God takes the Word of God and... imparts the life of God.”*

- Warren Wiersbe, *The Bible Exposition Commentary*