*How will I know when I am born again?*

JOHN 3:

1 There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:

2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

*Jesus was correcting Nicodemus who was acknowledging him to be from God and a teacher. Jesus’ teaching was the gospel and the kingdom.*

MATTHEW 4:

23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

MATTHEW 11

27 All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

*Even the disciples did not understand fully until it was revealed.*

LUKE 18:

34 † And they understood none of these things: and this saying was hid from them, neither knew they the things which were spoken.

JOHN 10:

» 6 † This parable spake Jesus unto them: but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them.

*Let’s look at some teaching religions has given us about the new birth or being born again. This first teaching started with John Calvin and has* ***morphed (metamorphosis****) into adoptions of John Calvins teaching but stay of the foundation of what being born again means. “* a change of the form or nature of a thing or person into a completely different one, by natural or supernatural means:” “change smoothly from one image to another by small gradual steps”

*The Reformed view … teaches that before a person can choose Christ … he must be born again … one does not first believe and then become reborn. … A cardinal doctrine of Reformed theology is the maxim, “Regeneration precedes faith” (Sproul,*[*Chosen by God*](http://amzn.to/1q4bLPU)*, 10, 72).*

*Oneness Pentecost differ from church to church but most hold to this basic teaching in their groups.*

*by* [*Matt Slick*](https://carm.org/author/matt/) *| Dec 8, 2008 |* [*Oneness Pentecostal*](https://carm.org/world-religions/oneness-pentecostal/)*,* [*World Religions*](https://carm.org/world-religions/)* Being born again means repentance, baptism, and speaking in tongues.  Baptism must be* ***administered by an ordained Oneness minister to be valid****.  Baptism must be administered with the phrase, “In the name of Jesus” instead of the phrase, “In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,” (*[*Matt. 28:19*](https://ref.ly/Matt.%2028.19;nasb95?t=biblia)*).  Speaking in tongues is a necessary requirement to demonstrate that a person has been baptized in the Holy Spirit and is, therefore, saved.  It is claimed to be the initial sign of the infilling of the Holy Ghost.*

*Baptist like most religions vary from group to group some Baptists are actually reformed and follow much of the teachings of John Calvin. Those who do not mostly agree with this belief about the new birth*.

[*https://truewordsbaptist.org/*](https://truewordsbaptist.org/) *You’ve heard the phrase. You’ve seen it on signs. But most people don’t actually know what* ***born again*** *means. It’s not emotional. It’s not mystical. It’s not about joining a church.To be born again means to be* ***made alive by God the moment you believe the Gospel.***

*The assembly of God group***.**

***https://ag.org/Beliefs/Position-Papers/Assurance-Of-Salvation***

*At the time of the believer’s new birth, theologically designated “regeneration,” the Holy Spirit comes into them, bringing assurance of forgiveness of sins, spiritual renewal, and a personal relationship with God.  “The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children” (Romans 8:16). This dynamic relationship with God by His Spirit, initiated and sustained through faith, undergirds the security of the believer.*

*There are those who give testimony to a dynamic and life-changing encounter with the Holy Spirit who have never spoken in tongues. Nevertheless it cannot be said that they are filled with the Spirit in the New Testament sense of the term. There is an essential link between that experience and speaking in other tongues, as pointed out above*.

*I could go on for several pages with different teachings about the new birth but let’s just see what the Word tells us and believe.*

JOHN 3:

4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

*There is many teaching about what the word “water” would mean I am taking it to mean an answer to Nicodemus question about an earthly birth and Jesus was pointing to a spiritual birth. He confirms this to some extent in the next verse.*

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

*This seems to confirm again in this scripture*.

I JOHN 5:

8 And there are three that bear witness **in earth**, the Spirit, and **the water,** and the blood: and these three agree in one.

JOHN 3:

7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

*Jesus at this time points to a person that is born of the Spirit to be like the wind you cannot tell where they come from or where they go. I may not have the correct understanding, but I believe every person is under the control of God almighty and their life is hidden in Christ and cannot be understood by the carnal mind.*

9 Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be?

10 Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?

11 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness.

12 If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?

*Earthly things would be a birth, the wind and the Spirit as Nicodemus would understand in the Old Testament that the Spirit of God could not be controlled nor a real prophet directed by any person or thing but God Himself. Neither could a correct supernatural experience such as the new birth be caused by an action of flesh.*

*In scripture the baptism of the Holy Ghost or Spirit is a promise which is to be believed by faith not by any other evidence.*

GALATIANS 3:

14 That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

HEBREWS 11:

1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

*Every Christian begins a journey by faith and if you believe and continue to believe you will be born again*

*Every journey begins with faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.*

ACTS 16:

31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

ROMANS 10:

9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

HEBREWS 12:

1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

*How does this faith come? Does it come because we were born again first*?

ROMANS 10:

14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

ROMANS 10:

17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

fervently:

*Faith does not come because you are born again but faith cause the born-again experience.*

I PETER 1:

23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, **by the word of God**, which liveth and abideth for ever.

24 For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

*We are born by the Word of God, and the Word comes by the gospel*.

*When the scripture speaks about a birth, we know it takes two things and that is for a man and a woman to become one.*

*In the new birth who is the Father and the mother?*

*The Word from God is the Seed.*

LUKE 8:

11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

*Who is the mother?*

MARK 3:

32 And the multitude sat about him, and they said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren without seek for thee.

33 And he answered them, saying, Who is my mother, or my brethren?

34 And he looked round about on them which sat about him, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren!

35 For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother.

GALATIANS 4

25 For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children.

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

**Mother.** 3384 meter {may'-tare} a mother; metaph. the source of something,

HEBREWS 12:

22 But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels,

23 To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,

24 And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

*The seed is the Word; the mother is the true church and the new birth come from that.*

JOHN 7:

38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

*What is the evidence that I have the Holy Ghost? That is not something that anyone can tell you but if you are a believer, you will receive the Holy Ghost as your leader, teacher, and comforter and many other benefits.*

II CORINTHIANS 13:

5 Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be **reprobates?**

96 » adokimos {ad-ok'-ee-mos} not standing the test, not approved, unfit for, unproved, spurious, reprobate

*The scripture speak of a witness the greatest witness is asking this question. Are we believing the true Word of God and do we have the correct love in our hearts which can only be put there by the Holy Ghost.*

9 If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son.

10 He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.

11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

12 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

13 **These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life**, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

II PETER 1:

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠≠

**THE LOVE OF GOD**

*"Behold, what manner of* ***love*** *the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God"* (1John 3:1).

*There is a great deal said in religious circles about the love of God, but few have a real scriptural concept of the truth of God's love as it is manifested in the scriptures. The general idea most people have is, "that God loves everybody without exception and is trying His best to save everybody, but the sinner will not cooperate.” The truth of God's character revealed in the word is that God is Holy. His love must always be in harmony with His Holy character as a Just God and Saviour (Isa. 45:21). Those for whom He loves in Christ (Rev.1:5), elected in Christ (John 6:37), redeemed in Christ (Eph.1:7) must be justified in Christ (Rom. 8:28-30) and will be called out of bondage into Light (Col. 1:12-13). Here are some scriptures that describe this true love of God to His covenant people.*

***1).*** *The* ***love of God******is manifested and revealed in Jesus Christ*** *(Rom.8:32-39; Eph. 1:3-6; 2Cor.4:6).*

***2).*** *The* ***love of God******is eternal*** *and will never be discontinued (Jer. 31:3). God Himself is eternal, therefore His great love must be eternal (Eph. 2:4).*

***3)****. The* ***love of God******is sacrificial*** *love and will redeem all His people from all their sins (1John 4:10; 3:16; Eph.5:2, 25; Matt.1:21; John 10:15).*

***4).*** *The* ***love of God is permanent*** *love and will always abide in the believer (John 13:1; Mal.3:6; Heb. 13:8).*

***5)****. The* ***love of God******is electing*** *love that unconditionally chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world (2Thes. 2:13; John 15:15-16; 17:2).*

***6)****. The* ***love of God******is unmerited*** *love, we have never done anything to deserve His favor or mercy (Titus 3:3-7; Rom 5:6-9). The only reason for His love to us is found in Himself, not in us (Deut.7:7-8).*

***7).*** *The* ***love of God******is constraining*** *love and motivates everyone who believes the gospel, to obedience to Him as a willing, loving bond slave of Christ (2Cor. 5:14; Psa. 65:4; 110:3).*

***8)****. The* ***love of God******is Holy love****, God in Christ is both a Just God and Saviour (Isa. 45:20-22). His love is regulated by His holy character (Rom. 5:21).*

*The more we meditate upon His great love to us, its character, its fullness, its blessedness; the more our hearts will be drawn out in love to Him. "*We love Him because He first loved us" *(1John 4:19; 3:16).*