# YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN

Samuel H. Nodal

Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, <u>unless one is born again he</u> <u>cannot see the kingdom of God</u>." 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?" 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. <u>That which</u> <u>is born of the flesh is flesh</u>; <u>and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit</u>.

(John 3:3-6)

# "unless one is Born Again he cannot see the kingdom of God" In the Greek (original language) it says, "unless you are Born from above you cannot understand nor perceive the Kingdom of God! Nicodemus was a Pharisee, an expert and scholar of the Jewish Law. Yet he had no idea of what Jesus was telling him because he was from Earth (carnal) and Jesus was from Heaven. This tells us that you can be very religious with Doctorate degrees, go to Church all your life and still not be saved and end up in Hell! There are many in Church today that are not Born Again (from above). They make up what you would call the Carnal Social Church. God's Church is birthed through His SPIRIT!

For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. (1 Cor. 2:11-15)

The Spirit alone gives eternal life. Human effort accomplishes nothing.

And the very words I have spoken to you are spirit and life. (John 6:63) NLT

There are two types of Churches today. One is spiritual (Godly) and the other is the Carnal Natural Church (worldly).

The carnal social Church is not under the Power of the Holy Spirit and can accomplish nothing for God. It also can be easily manipulated by satan. They are very popular, and make a lot of noise. They may have a lot of activities but, at the end of the day, the Lord's will was not done and the people left empty! They look great on the outside but their congregants are starving for a True Word from the Holy Spirit. They are NOT BORN AGAIN!

### Be Not Unequally Yoked Together with UnBelievers

This does not mean to hate them or ignore them! It means to love them and respect them but not to follow their doctrine and life style. God sees only two types of people from Heaven (Saved and Unsaved) and they cannot be joined together in the congregation of the Saints.

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. (2 Cor. 6:14-18)

The unsaved or the wicked cannot worship God in the assembly of the righteous! Here in earthly churches the righteous worship together with the unrighteous, but it will not be so in Heaven. Many people worship a God they don't even know, especially in false Churches, and sadly can't tell the difference.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous. (Psalms. 1:5)

# The Lord Knows Who Belong to Him

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. (Gal. 6:7,8)

"I am the good shepherd, and I know My own, and My own know Me.
(John 10:14) NASB

"My sheep listen to My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me: (John 10:27) NASB

At that day ye shall know that **I am in my Father**, **and ye in me**, **and I in you**. (John 14:20)

Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. (1 John 3:2)

Keep in mind the wicked and the righteous have always worshipped together in Church. But, let us be clear, in <u>Heaven It Will Not Be So!</u>

How Then do we Recognize True Believers from the False Believers? The Bible is clear! By the Fruit they produce!

"Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it. "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them. "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!' (Matt. 7:13-23)

Is it by the good works they do, by how many times they go to Church and take the Eucharist, because they fund hungry feeding programs etc etc...??? No, No, No... that is called religion. God says; "YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN!"

### The Fruit of the Righteous (Born Again)

Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name. And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him. Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not. For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the LORD of hosts. (Mal. 3:16-4:3)

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish. (Psa. 1:1-6)

Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him. (Psa. 2:11,12)

Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. (Psalm. 24:3-5)

Remember, God has permitted the unrighteousness for whatever reason to worship Him in the same congregation of the saints. The unrighteous are deceived (satan) into thinking they are right with God when they are not. They must think they are so clever tricking God and the saints, but what horrors they will experience at the Great White Throne! (Matt. 7:23) And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. (What Horror)

Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn. (Matt. 13:24-30)

Make Sure You Constantly Examine Yourself and Help your Neighbor

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? (2 Cor. 13:5)

<u>Having a form of godliness</u>, <u>but denying the power thereof</u>: <u>from such turn</u> <u>away</u>. (2 Tim. 3:5)

What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

(1 Cor. 6:19,20)

We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

(2 Cor. 5:20) NIV

Remember you are responsible for the well being of your brothers and sisters. This is what real ministry is all about! Loving and caring for one another. Most people in Church don't even know what the Gospel is! The social unsaved Church is very popular and are deceived into thinking they are saved when they are NOT!

Then Jesus spoke to the crowds and to His disciples, saying: "The scribes and the Pharisees have seated themselves in the chair of Moses. Therefore, whatever they tell you, do and comply with it all, but do not do as they do; for they say things and do not do them. "And they tie up heavy burdens and lay them on people's shoulders, but they themselves are unwilling to move them with so much as their finger. "And they do all their deeds to be noticed by other people; for they broaden their phylacteries and lengthen the tassels of their garments. "And they love the place of honor at banquets, and the seats of honor in the synagogues, and personal greetings in the marketplaces, and being called Rabbi by the people. (Matt. 23:1-7) NASB

### Don't be a Pharisee that is All Show but No Fruit

God will judge our Fruit Not our Gifts! One can be highly gifted and end up in Hell. The Fruit must come from the Holy Spirit! The Scribes and Pharisees were the Church leaders of their day and didn't even recognize Jesus as their Messiah! Jesus hated them and called them hypocrites and white washed tombs!

Now in the morning as he returned into the city, he hungered. And when he saw a fig tree in the way, he came to it, and found nothing thereon, but leaves only, and said unto it, Let no fruit grow on thee henceforward for ever. And presently the fig tree withered away. (Matt. 21:18-20)

Christian Rock concerts is Not a way to worship Him! Neither are light shows and smoke machines used in order to enhance the worship. These are all satanic deceptions that deceive God's people from the straight and narrow road. The True Church takes the Narrow road while the false Church takes the Broad road (Matt. 7:13): God puts severe restrictions on worshiping Him! Worship is not for the wicked or the false Church. Jesus will tell them plainly "INEVER KNEW YOU" (Matt. 7:23).

"If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; "and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:31)

Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling**. (Phil. 2:12)

But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

(1 Cor. 9:27)

There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death. (Prov. 14:12)

Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

(Jam. 2:19,20)

### Transformation is the Real Evidence Not an Emotional Decision

I've seen many come to the Church Alter after a good message crying and emotionally moved and yet their life style has not changed. They continue in the same old sins without repentance. Salvation evidence is the transformation Not the emotional decision! You are a New Creation in Christ, act like it! Transformation is not perfection, but, there must be a change of mind, a desire to do what's right to the best of your ability, and repent when you fall short!

# Real Ministry is Confronting People with the TRUTH

Real ministry is bringing the people to a constant analysis of their spiritual condition lest they fall away. Telling them the Truth in Love. This is what real ministry is all about. Not light shows and smoke machines!

Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that <u>ye may</u> <u>be found of him in peace</u>, <u>without spot</u>, <u>and blameless</u>. And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction. <u>Ye therefore</u>, <u>beloved</u>, <u>seeing ye know these things before</u>, <u>beware lest ye also</u>, <u>being led away with the error of the wicked</u>, <u>fall from your own stedfastness</u>. <u>But grow in grace</u>, <u>and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ</u>. <u>To him be glory both now and for ever</u>. Amen. (2 Pet. 3:11-18)

Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will? (Heb. 2:1-4)

Salvation is of <u>THE HEART</u> (not your mind or emotions)

The Lord will circumcise your heart cutting off all the diseased parts and making you whole in Christ. If your heart is really toward God "You Will Love Him and Obey His WORD."

And the LORD thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live. (Deut. 30:6)

And I will give them an heart to know me, that I am the LORD: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God: for they shall return unto me with their whole heart. (Jer. 24:7)

But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. (Jer. 31:33)

And I will give them one heart, and one way, that they may fear me for ever, for the good of them, and of their children after them: And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me. (Jer. 32:39,40)

And say thou unto them, <u>Thus saith the LORD God of Israel</u>; <u>Cursed be the</u> <u>man that obeyeth not the words of this covenant</u>, Which I commanded your fathers in the day that I brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, from the iron furnace, saying, <u>Obey my voice</u>, <u>and do them</u>, <u>according to all which</u> <u>I command you</u>: <u>so shall ye be my people</u>, <u>and I will be your God</u>: (Jer. 11:3,4)

And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh: That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God. But as for them whose heart walketh after the heart of their detestable things and their abominations, I will recompense their way upon their own heads, saith the Lord GOD. (Ezek. 11:19-21)

God transformes the inner man completely. He gives you a New Heart (a New Spirit) so that you can walk in His steps (Psa. 37:23). There should no longer be a mystery of who's a real Christian and who is not! Everyone in the Church should know who you are by the spirit.

Wherefore we henceforth know no man after the flesh: even though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now we know him so no more. Wherefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature: the old things are passed away; behold, they are become new. (2 Cor. 5:16,17) ASV

### **Identifying False Ministers**

Beware, In these last days there are many False Teachers, Pastors, Evangelists, Prophets, and the latest trend in the Church; Apostles. Dear Lord please help us... The worst thing a minister can do is; tell people they are secure when they are Not! (Matt. 7:22,23)

The Real Historical Church <u>Learned Christ</u> (The Head of the Church) <u>They learned Christ</u> - Not some man or methods of men.

This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye no longer walk as the Gentiles also walk, in the vanity of their mind, being darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardening of their heart; who being past feeling gave themselves up to lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. But ye did not so learn Christ; if so be that ye heard him, and were taught in him, even as truth is in Jesus: that ye put away, as concerning your former manner of life, the old man, that waxeth corrupt after the lusts of deceit; and that ye be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new man, that after God hath been created in righteousness and holiness of truth. Wherefore, putting away falsehood, speak ye truth each one with his neighbor: for we are members one of another. Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: neither give place to the devil. Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labor, working with his hands the thing that is good, that he may have whereof to give to him that hath need. Let no corrupt speech proceed out of your mouth, but such as is good for edifying as the need may be, that it may give grace to them that hear. And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, in whom ye were sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and railing, be put away from you, with all malice: and be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving each other, even as God also in Christ forgave you.

(Eph. 4:17-32) ASV

But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: (Eph. 4:15)

But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen. (2 Pet. 3:18)

<u>It is written in the prophets</u>, <u>And they shall be all taught of God</u>. <u>Every man therefore that hath heard</u>, <u>and hath learned of the Father</u>, <u>cometh unto me</u>.

(John 6:45)

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

(Rom. 10:17)

We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him. We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one. We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

(1 John 5:18-20) NIV

The more you know Jesus Christ the less you want to sin! If someone has been in Church for ten years and continues to sin without repentance you should immediately discern that something is not right.

## Sanctification; Created for Good Works in Christ

Please understand; we are not saved by good works. We are saved by God's Grace through Faith!

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. (Eph. 2:8-10)

Created in Christ for good works, this is part of our Sanctification Not our <u>Justification</u>! Our Justification comes from believing what Christ did at the Cross for us (John 3:16). But if we truly are Born Again we will do the works that God foreordained us to do. Not to save us but because we are already saved. Big difference! We love God with all our hearts and desire to please Him. <u>This is how we know we are saved!</u> Salvation should not be a mystery. His Spirit bears witness with your spirit that you belong to God.

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: (Rom. 8:16)

# And Finally; Judgment Begins in GOD's HOUSE

For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? (1 Pet. 4:17)

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. (2 Cor. 5:10)

For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have Jesus Christ. Anyone who builds on that foundation may use a variety of materials gold, silver, jewels, wood, hay, or straw. But on the judgment day, fire will reveal what kind of work each builder has done. The fire will show if a person's work has any value. If the work survives, that builder will receive a reward. But if the work is burned up, the builder will suffer great loss. The builder will be saved, but like someone barely escaping through a wall of flames. (1 Cor. 3:11-15) NLT