

Bible Words Misused

“If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen” (**1 Pet. 4:11**).

Grace

- It is true that God's grace has appeared to all men.
 - See **Titus 2:11; John 3:16; 1 John 2:2.**
- It is also true that we are saved by grace.
 - See **Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 3:21-25.**
- But it is equally true that in order to receive God's grace, He has required a few things of us . . .

Grace

- We are saved by grace through obedient faith.
 - See **Eph. 2:8-9; Heb. 11.**
- Today, we are undoubtedly saved by God's grace through Christ's sacrifice, but in order to receive the "*free gift*" of God's grace (**Rom. 6:23**), we must continually obey Him.
 - See **Luke 6:46; Heb. 5:9.**
- We are saved by grace through faith for good works.
 - See **Eph. 2:8-10; Titus 2:11-14.**

Grace

We are now debtors.

“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. Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live” (Rom. 8:11-14).

- We must stop living according the flesh (**Rom. 8:13**), put to death our sinfulness (**Rom. 6:6**), become instruments of righteousness (**Rom. 6:13**), presenting ourselves as living sacrifices, holy and acceptable to God (**Rom. 12:1**) because . . .

Grace

We can fall from God's grace.

- God's grace does not abound where sin abounds
 - See **Rom. 6:1-4**.
- Grace is not a license to persist in sin; it should drive us to stop sinning.
- *“For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds” (Titus 2:11-14, NRSV).*

Grace

We can fall from God's grace.

- Many people take comfort in believing the lie that God will never stop extending His grace to us. However, **Gal. 5:4** proves beyond any doubt that a Christian can fall and be separated from the grace of God.
 - *“You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.”*
- Faith without obedience will not save us. It will just be a “*dead*” faith.
 - See **James 2:14-26**.

Fellowship

- Fellowship is not food and drink (**Rom. 14:17**).
 - The only “fellowship meal” the Bible ever speaks about is the Lord’s Supper and Corinth was condemned for eating common food during it (**1 Cor. 11:17-34**).
- Fellowship is defined as . . .
 - Companionship, company : community of interest, activity, feeling, or experience : the state of being a fellow or associate (**Webster**).
 - Companionship through the gospel of Christ (**1 John 1:1-3**).

Fellowship

- Fellowship is dependent on us carrying sound doctrine.
 - This includes fellowship with people (**Acts 2:42**).
 - And fellowship with Christ (**1 John 1:7**).
- We must not be in fellowship with the world.
 - See **2 Cor. 6:14, 17**.

NOTE: We do not have to remove ourselves from the world to not be in fellowship with it!

“Marriage” vs Marriage “Bond”

- Many people see “marriage” and the marriage “bond” as synonymous. However, this is not accurate.
- God defines “marriage” as a unique relationship between one man and one woman.
 - See **Matt. 19:4-6.**
- The “bond” is defined with more specificity.
 - See **Rom. 7:2-3.**
- God’s general rule is that the marriage bond is for life. Divorce for the cause of fornication and death are how the bond can be terminated.

“Marriage” vs Marriage “Bond”

Divorce does not automatically break the marriage bond.

- **Rom. 7:2-3** proves “marriage” and “bond” are not equivalent when it gives the case of a woman that is bound to her first husband, while married but not bound to a second husband.
- God recognizes the second marriage as a marriage (“*she marries another man*”), but He does not bind them together. The woman is still bound to her original husband. That’s why a remarriage while the original husband is still alive makes her an adulteress. Therefore, the marriage and the bond are two different things.

“Marriage” vs Marriage “Bond”

Divorce does not automatically break the marriage bond.

“Now to the married I command, yet not I but the Lord: A wife is not to depart from her husband. But even if she does depart, let her remain unmarried or be reconciled to her husband. And a husband is not to divorce his wife” (1 Cor. 7:10-11).

- When a person wrongfully divorces an unwilling mate, God calls them “unmarried.”
- They were once married, but are now unmarried due to what civil law has authorized. They are still bound, but they are now unmarried.

“Marriage” vs Marriage “Bond”

- Marrying, separating, and divorcing are things that man does.
 - **Matt. 19:6** – “let not man separate.”
- Binding and loosing are things God does (**see again Rom. 7:2-3**).
 - God binds (obligates) a couple when they become scripturally married.
 - God looses that couple when one of the parties dies.
 - God also looses the innocent party for remarriage when a divorce for fornication occurs.
- So, “marriage” and the marriage “bond” are distinct and different.

Born Again

This phrase only appears twice in the Bible.

- *“He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever” (1 Pet. 1:20-23).*
- *“Jesus answered and said to him, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God’” (John 3:3).*

Born Again

How can we be born again? Man says . . .

The phrase “born again” applies to people who have accepted Jesus as their Savior or Redeemer. The born again soul realizes that they are a sinner (Romans 3:23) and that the penalty for that sin is death (Romans 6:23). To rectify the circumstances, God sent His only Son to die in their place, to take the punishment for sin (Romans 5:8). After Jesus’ death, He arose from the dead (1 Corinthians 15:3-6). Jesus is the only way to God (John 14:6) and He provides the blessing of salvation. Each person has the choice to receive or reject God’s gift through faith (Ephesians 2:8-9) and experience new birth (John 3:1-8). Whoever follows Jesus as Christ, the Son of God, and has accepted His gift of life can be called Christian. That is where the journey of rebirth begins.

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Born Again

How can we be born again? Man says . . .

If you have never trusted in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, will you consider the prompting of the Holy Spirit as He speaks to your heart? You need to be born again. Will you pray the prayer of repentance and become a new creation in Christ today? . . . If you want to accept Jesus Christ as your Savior and be born again, here is a sample prayer. Remember, saying this prayer or any other prayer will not save you. It is only trusting in Christ that can save you from sin. This prayer is simply a way to express to God your faith in Him and thank Him for providing for your salvation. *"God, I know that I have sinned against you and am deserving of punishment. But Jesus Christ took the punishment that I deserve so that through faith in Him I could be forgiven. I place my trust in You for salvation. Thank You for Your wonderful grace and forgiveness—the gift of eternal life! Amen!"*

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Born Again

How can we be born again? The Bible says . . .

- We are born again by water and the Spirit.

➤ See **John 3:3-5**.

“Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life” (Rom. 6:3-4).

“Buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses” (Col. 2:12-13).

Every person must be born again to satisfy God. Have you been born again?

Christian

- The word only appears three times in the Bible.
 - See **Acts 11:25-26; Acts 26:28; 1 Pet. 4:16.**
- It is a God-given title for the saved.
 - See **Acts 2:38-47; Eph. 5:22-32.**
- Those who are Christians must walk worthy of the name given to us.
 - See **Col. 1:9-15.**
- Would you like to become a Christian?
 - See **Acts 2:14-41.**
- If you are already a Christian, are you continuing in Christ's Word?
 - See **Acts 2:42; John 8:31-32.**