



What Does a Born-Again Person Look Like?

What Is Man?

(Part 4)

John 3:1-8

John 1:1-14; 1 John 5:1-3

ABC's of Being A Christian (Hebrews 5:12-14)

- Are you a teacher? Are you a discipler? Who are you discipling?

Do You Know the God of the Bible?

- (John 17:2-3) Eternal life is knowing God. Eternal life is being in a genuine, real, intimate relationship with God.
- (1 John 2:3-4) Do I know God? Do I have eternal life? Do I obey His commandments

Do You Know Your Enemy? (1 Peter 5:8-9)

- We live in enemy territory! Our children play and go to school in enemy territory! We work and study in enemy territory. (1 John 5:19)
- Satan uses the world to deceive. Many are deceived. (Matt 24:4,5,11,24)

Do You Know YOURSELF?

- 11 Questions from last week's sermon.

Man Created by God (Genesis 1:26-31)

- God created man and woman in His own image.
- God created man with a **mind** so that he could **know** his Creator.
- God created man with **affections/emotions** so that he could **love** his Creator.
- God created man with a **will** so that he could choose to **do** the **will** of his Creator.
- That image, God's, is pure, holy, and true righteous. (Ephesians 4:24)
- God created man in such a way so that he might have a genuine, real, intimate **relationship** with his Creator.
- **The chief end of man is to glorify and enjoy their Creator.**

• MEDITATE:

- Truth has perished; no one is valiant for the truth. ~~Truth is relative.~~ (Jeremiah 5:1; 9:3; 7:28; Isaiah 59:4, 14, 15; Hosea 4:1)
- OUR generation now calls good evil and evil good. (Isaiah 5:20)
- VERY, VERY few speak of and pursue holiness. (Hebrews 12:14; 1 Peter 1:15-16; 2 Corinthians 7:1)
- VERY, VERY few seek to imitate God and to walk as Christ walked. (Ephesians 5:1-2; 1 John 2:6)
- VERY, VERY few strive to purify themselves **as** He is pure. (1 John 3:3)
- VERY, VERY few **practice** (present tense) righteousness (God's righteousness). (1 John 2:28-3:10)

WHAT HAPPENED?

What Did Adam's Sin Do to Man?

- ★ The FIRST MAN, our representative, our head, SINNED! And when he sinned we all sinned! (Romans 5:12) And as a result, . . .
- ✘ Man's mind (understanding, reasoning; ability to know) was DARKENED. (Ephesians 4:18; Romans 1:28; 2 Corinthians 4:4) **GOD HANDED US OVER TO A DEBASED MIND!** Man cannot understand God, God's ways, or the things of God. (1 Corinthians 2:14; John 8:43)
- ✘ Man's affections/emotions became twisted, warped, corrupted. Man cannot love God because he cannot know God. Man loves the things the Creator provides but not the Creator. Man became an **enemy** of God. (1 John 2:15-17; James 4:4)
- ✘ Man's will became in **bondage** to sin, the world, Satan, and their own lusts and desires. Man is complete incapable for doing any good or anything that pleases God. They always choose their own way rather than having God, their Creator, as their Lord. (Luke 19:27; Isaiah 53:6; Psalm 14:1-3; 53:1-3; Romans 3:9-20; Genesis 6:5; 8:21; Ephesians 2:1-3)
- ✘ Man died spiritually. Man is born DEAD in their trespasses and sins.
 - "You shall surely die!" - This is spiritual death - separation for God. (Ephesians 2:1-3; 2:10; Isaiah 59:2; Proverbs 15:29)
 - When any person is born into this world they are born DEAD to God. Man is DEAD in his/her trespasses and sins. (Colossians 2:13)
- ✘ A DEAD person **cannot** hear, **cannot** see, **cannot** understand, **cannot** obey, **cannot** seek God, **cannot** please God, **cannot** not come to Christ, **cannot** repent, **cannot** believe. (Romans 8:7-8; Hebrews 11:6; John 6:44, 65; 1 Corinthians 2:14; Romans 10:13; John 3:3)
- ✘ Man **cannot** do *anything* to save himself. (John 3:1-8; Romans 5:6; Matthew 19:25-26; Luke 18:26-27)

A Look at John 3:1-8

- God sent a SECOND MAN to be the Representative, Head of HIS people - that man was Jesus Christ. (1 Cor 15:45-47; Hebrews 2:9; 1 Timothy 2:5)

- Christ came to save HIS people from their sins. (John 10:27-29; 6:35-40; 17:6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 24; Acts 4:12;)
- Christ was speaking to Nicodemus, a Pharisee, **the** teacher of Israel, a religious man.
- “Unless you are born-again you will not see the kingdom of Heaven!”
 - **UNLESS YOU START ALL OVER** you will not see the kingdom of God.
- Christ used the words “born-from-above” or “born-again” to emphasize that man cannot cause him/herself to be saved just as one did not choose to be born or caused him/herself to be born again.
- (v. 8) God is SOVEREIGN over His miracle of rebirth.

The MIRACLE of Regeneration

- Definition of “miracle”: A supernatural act of God’s power. Something that defies nature. Something only God can do.
- IF God does something no one can undo it! (Ecclesiastes 7:13; Isaiah 42:16; Revelation 3:8; John 10:27-31; Isaiah 14:24-27; Romans 11:29)
- What is GRACE? Grace is the POWER of God that comes upon one of His enemies to transform that person now into a worshiper of God, disciple of Christ, child of God, a friend of God. This transformation is RADICAL.
- What happens when one is “born-again”?
 - ① He is FIRST given eternal life. (Romans 6:23; James 1:18; John 1:13)
 - ② With THIS life he understands the things of God - God’s perspective who He is, who man is, what sin is, what are the consequences of sin. (1 John 5:20; Matthew 13:11; John 17:2; 2 Cor 4:6; Eph 1:17-19)
 - ③ With THIS life he believes. Faith is a GIFT of God. (Ephesians 2:8-9; 1:19; Matthew 16:17; Acts 16:14; **Philippians 1:29; Gal 3:22-25**)
 - ④ With THIS life he repents of his sins. He turns away from doing life his way and now seeks to live life strictly in accordance with the written Word of God. (Acts 17:30; Mark 1:14-15; Luke 4:4; Acts 11:18; 2 Tim 2:25; Luke 13:1-5; Luke 24:46-47)
 - ⑤ With THIS life he comes to God through Christ. (John 6:35-40, 44, 65; 14:6)
 - ⑥ With THIS life he receives Christ as Lord and Saviour. (John 1:12-13; Romans 10:9-10; Philippians 2:11; Acts 10:36; 2:36;)
 - ⑦ With THIS life he becomes zealous for the works of God unto which he was saved. (Ephesians 2:10; Titus 2:14; James 2:14-26; 1 Cor 15:58)

What Does A Born-Again Man Look Like?

- (2 Corinthians 5:17) ALL those who are IN CHRIST are NEW CREATURES!
- The MIRACLE of regeneration New creation; new nature. ONLY GOD HAS THE POWER TO CREATE; RE-CREATE; CHANGE ONE’S NATURE.
- (2 Peter 1:3-4) At REBIRTH man becomes a “partaker of the divine nature.”

- Nature determines: Those who have the DIVINE NATURE . . .
 - ❶ **APPETITE**. . . . “hunger after righteousness” and **feed** on God’s Word and His will. (Matt 5:6; 4:4; Hebrew 5:14; John 4:34; 6:47-59; Matt 7:21-23)
 - ❷ **BEHAVIOUR**. . . . “**practice** righteousness (the righteousness of God)” They strive to do the will of God. They live their lives on every word that proceeds from the mouth of God - the written Word of God. They do the Word of God. (1 John 2:15-17; **29**; 3:6-10; 10:27-29; Matthew 7:21-23; 12:50; Luke 11:27-28; Acts 17:30; Hebrews 5:9; James 1:21-22; 2:14-26; 1 Peter 4:2; Titus 2:14)
 - ❸ **ENVIRONMENT**. . . . have been “delivered from the power of darkness and conveyed into the kingdom of His Son.” They live in THE LIGHT as Christ is in the light. (Colossians 1:13; 1 Peter 2:9; **1 John 1:6-7**)
 - ❹ **ASSOCIATION**. . . . associate with LIKE KIND – 2 Cor 6:14-18; 1 Cor 15:33; James 4:4; Hebrews 10:25; 1 Corinthians 12:12-27; Romans 12:4-5; Acts 2:42-47) They associate themselves with a CHURCH (people of God), a local Body of Christ.
- (Colossians 3:10)The image of God restored . . .
 - ★ Through the work of Christ, His life **and** His death, and through the work of Holy Spirit GOD is NOW conforming ALL for whom Christ died into the image of Christ, who is the “expressed image” of God – that image He had originally created in man. (Romans 8:29)
 - ★ Those who have been SAVED from their SINS (Matthew 1:21) NOW . . .
 - ☆ Renew their MINDS by adding to their faith knowledge (2 Peter 1:5-8) and they continually grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. (2 Peter 3:18-19; Colossians 1:10)
 - ✓ They do this by diligent study of God’s Word.
 - ✓ Their relationship with God becomes more and more real the more they **know** Him through His Word.
 - ✓ They consider everything else as **dung** compared to knowing Christ. (Philippians 3:8)
 - ☆ They now love God, their brethren, their neighbors, and their enemies as Christ has loved them. (Matthew 22:36-40; John 13:34-35; 1 John 3:14-15)
 - ✓ They demonstrate their love for God by obeying His commandments. (John 14:15, 21, 23-4; 15:10, 13-14; 1 John 2:3-4; 1 John 5:1-3)
 - ✓ They love God more than their spouses, children, careers, and their own lives. (Luke 14:26-33)
 - ✓ They hate everything God hates. (Psalm 26:5; 31:6; 119:128)
 - ☆ They live their lives by **doing** the will of God (His written Word). (Matthew 7:21-23; James 1:22; 1 John 2:17)