

## **Born from Heaven**

### ***John 3:1-15***

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’” (Matthew 7:21-23 [ESV](#))

**Main Idea: New life in Christ is everything. Without life from above, nothing is whole. With life from above, all that is broken will be made new.**

### **Man’s Self-confident Assumption**

Our Self-Confident Blunder: Man naturally assumes that there is a path we can blaze for ourselves that will lead us to heaven.

There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death. (Proverbs 14:12; 16:25 [ESV](#))

Truth: It is possible to believe with all one’s heart that heaven is our future and yet be terribly wrong about that. It is possible to have everyone on earth affirm that heaven is our future and yet be very wrong about that.

*“Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.”* (Matthew 7:13-14 [ESV](#))

### **God’s Supernatural Requirement**

Truth: If God is to reach us, He first must awaken us to our need of a miracle.

If we are asleep, God may do something in our life to awaken us. That something may be painful, but it is born on the wings of His love.

Definition: To be born again simply means that God’s Holy Spirit places the life of God in our soul so that we become alive to God.

*And Jesus said to his disciples, “Truly, I say to you, only with difficulty will a rich person enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.” When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?” But Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.””* (Matthew 19:23-26 [ESV](#))

Truth: The person who does not experience being born again will fall short of God's eternal kingdom every single time. God's entrance requirement into His kingdom is this new spiritual birth.

### **Jesus' Sacrificial Payment**

*"He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed." (1 Peter 2:24 [ESV](#))*

Look upon Jesus in faith, and you will be given new life from God. You will be born again.

### **The Believer's Surprising Benefits**

#### **Ten Joys That Our New Life Makes Possible:**

1. **We become alive to God.** His life in us makes it possible to enjoy His love for us.
2. **We delight in His Word.** His life in us makes it possible to hear Him speak personally to us.
3. **We hate our own sin.** His life in us makes it possible to live in the light of holiness.
4. **We long for Jesus' return.** His life in us makes it possible to believe His promises to us.
5. **We love Jesus' church.** His life in us makes it possible to experience the bond of love with our brothers and sisters.
6. **We rejoice in the mission Jesus has given to us.** His life in us makes it possible to grasp the eternal purpose for our life on earth.
7. **We do not fear death.** His life in us makes it possible to look with peace to that future day when we face this last enemy.
8. **We sing praises.** His life in us makes it possible for us to carol instead of complain.
9. **We pray and pray and pray some more.** His life in us makes it possible for us to talk with God.
10. **We become alive to God.** Did I say that already?

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you," (1 Peter 1:3-4 [ESV](#))*