

Back to the Beginning

John 3:1-17 and Selected Verses

Sept 27, 2015

John 3:1-17 NIV

Nature of our New Birth:

1. It's not by human effort.

"3 Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again." John 3:3 NIV

"12 I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things?" John 3:12 NIV

"8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast." Eph 2:8-9 NIV

2. It is not optional.

"3 Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. 2 He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him." John 3:1-2 NIV

3. There is a need because there has been spiritual death.

4 "How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!...(Jesus answered) 6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit." John 3:4, 6 NIV

"...He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" 2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, 3 but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" 4 "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. 5 "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." Gen 3:1b-5 NIV

"7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. 8 Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden." Gen 3:7-8 NIV

"24 After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life." Gen 3:24 NIV

"15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel." Gen 3:15 NIV

"23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God," Rom 3:23 NIV

"9 The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world." John 1:9 NIV

"8 And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:" John 16:8 NKJV

"19 since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them." Rom 1:19 NIV

4. It implies conception.

"5 Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit." John 3:4-6 NIV

"9 If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved... 13 for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Rom 10:9-10, 13 NIV

9 "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. 10 As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, 11 so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it." Is 55:9-10 NIV

"23 For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God." 1 Peter 1:23 NIV

"12 Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God." John 1:12-13 NIV

5. It means to have a new nature.

"6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit." John 3:6 NIV

"13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God." John 1:13 NIV

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" 2 Cor 5:7 NIV

"because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son." 7 Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? 8 If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. 9 Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! 10 They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. 11 No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it." Heb 12:6-11 NIV

"22 Of them the proverbs are true: "A dog returns to its vomit," and, "A sow that is washed returns to her wallowing in the mud." 2 Peter 2:22 NIV

6. It's about a brand new start.

"16For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him." John 3:16-17 NIV

"I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more." Is 43:25 NIV

"Come now, let us settle the matter," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool." Is 1:18 NIV

7. A baby is complete but not mature.

"9 For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form," Col 2:9 NIV

"Therefore let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God," Heb 6:1 NIV

"3 His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness." 2 Peter 1:3 NIV

