

You Must Be Born Again!

John 3:7 "Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again."

Jesus said, "Ye must be born again." If you have not been born again, it doesn't matter how many things you have done or prayers you prayed OR how much you really meant them. Ye must be born again!

How can we know for sure that we have been born again? Here are some answers I frequently hear from other Christians:

"By how committed you are..."

"By whether or not YOU have made Jesus your Lord..."

"By knowing the biblical facts of salvation..."

"Because I serve in and follow the Church teachings..."

And of course, the most popular answer:

"By whether you asked Jesus into your heart through prayer..."

But what saith the scriptures?

1 John 4:13 "Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit." (we know that we are saved because we recognize the presence of the Holy Spirit within us)

1 John 5:10 "He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself:" (the Holy Spirit within us, see also John 14:16 & 17)

We will know by the presence of the Holy Spirit within us. Some might ask, "Well isn't he just a still small voice or a silent presence?" When the Holy Spirit of God enters into a sinner, and creates new life, you WILL know it; the Holy Spirit WILL witness of itself.

The bible tells us we become new creatures, with a new nature, and new desires to serve the Lord. The Holy Spirit of Christ within us will do what is natural for it- lead us to holiness and the things which are pleasing to God. The desires of Christ- to do God's will- will become our desires. As newborn babes we will desire the word of God, and spiritual things that were a mystery to us in our natural form will begin to make sense.

Here are some other we can know:

1 John 1:6 "If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:" (If we are living in sin and darkness like the world, instead of in the light of truth, we are lying to ourselves and are not truly saved.)

1 John 2:3-4 "And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." (Living in disobedience to God's commandments proves that the truth is not in us, and we are not truly followers of Christ)

1 John 2:19 "They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us." (A clear indication that someone was not truly a born-again believer is their failure to continue in the things of the Lord)

1 John 3:10 "In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother." (In this are the true born-again believers shown, and the children of the Devil: whoever does not live righteously or love his brother is of the Devil)

1 John 4:17-18 "Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love."

(If we have fear and doubt about approaching God's throne on the day of judgment, it casts serious doubt upon our salvation.)

1 John 5:2 "By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments." (Even the wicked love those who love them, so how can we know for sure that we are loving the brethren? If we keep God's commandments, because many of the commandments deal with how we treat others.)

1 John 3:24 "And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us." (The only sure way we can know that we are truly in Christ is by the Holy Spirit within us.)
Romans 8:9 "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his."

1 John 5:13 "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God." (that you may know for certain whether or not you are born again, and so that others may believe also.)

If your salvation experience is limited to a prayer you have said, or decision that you have made, or anything else you have

done, and you have not become a new creature, you may not truly be born again.

Matthew 7:21-23 "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven;" Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."

How sad that these will be people just like you and me: people who may even go to church, who thought they were saved, for whatever reason. Maybe they said a prayer, maybe they grew up in church, maybe they served God with great zeal, but they were not saved. They were deceived. Do not let this be you.

Have you been born again? Only you and the Lord know for sure. Make sure you KNOW that you have been born again. I didn't say hope- but know. (Please don't let anyone else tell you either). Do not rest or cease to seek after God until you do.

All Scripture Taken From the King James Version of the Bible

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