

# **Ye Must Be Born Again!**

By Jarrett Watson

Have you truly been born again? In what or whom do you trust for salvation? What is salvation? These are three important questions that everyone should consider.

Let us first answer the question “what is salvation.” Salvation, or being saved, means a lot of different things to different people. Salvation is not being saved from Hell or being saved to Heaven. If you were only “saved” because you didn’t want to go to Hell or because you wanted to go to Heaven, then perhaps you were never really saved at all. Biblically, salvation is to be saved from sin (Matthew 1:21). That does not mean that a person will never sin again after they are saved. In our flesh we will continue to sin because the flesh

has not been made perfect. Biblical salvation, however, gives us power over sin (Romans 6:14) and we are no longer under its condemnation (Romans 8:1). Salvation then, is to be free from sin (and not free to sin -Romans 6:15).

The second point to ponder is “who or what do you trust for salvation.” To some, dying a martyr’s death grants them salvation; to others, being a good person ensures they are saved; and even some feel that their baptism is equal to salvation. The Bible tells us, however, that our works do not grant us salvation (2nd Timothy 1:8-9 and Titus 3:5). There are many who trust in Muhammad or Buddha or some other god(s) to save them. But there is only One who can truly grant salvation. That is the person of the

Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 4:10-12). Salvation is the free gift of God given by His grace through faith in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8-9). If you are trusting in anything or anyone else, besides Christ, for salvation, then your salvation is faulty, even at its foundation.

The last point to consider is “have you been born again.” Perhaps you have heard the phrase “born again” before, but what does it actually mean? It literally means to be born anew or to be born from above/God. It is not fleshly in nature like our physical birth but rather spiritual (John 3:3-8). You still may be wondering what this spiritual birth is. The Bible tells us that we are dead in trespasses and sins (Ephesians 2:1) and it is God who must quicken us (make us alive).

## **New Testament Baptist Church**

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Sunday School 10:00AM

Sunday Preaching 11:00AM

Sunday Evening 1:30PM

Wednesday Evening Preaching 7:00PM

Because of our sinful nature, we are dead spiritually (Romans 3:23, 5:12). So then, we must be brought back to life (born again) before we can ever believe and be saved (Ephesians 2:4-5 and again John 3:3). When God gives us spiritual life again, He births us anew. That is so say, He makes us a new creature (2nd Corinthians 5:17). This new man within us has power over sin (as mentioned in our first point). Remember we are speaking spiritually and not fleshly. This new birth completely changes who we are: our desires, our passions, our goals and outlook on life, and so on. But it does not change our flesh; that will come in due time for the believer (1st Corinthians 15:51-53). Have you ever experienced this life changing event of being born again?

Has God given you life where you were once dead (so that you can believe on the Lord Jesus Christ)? If not, you have not been saved at all. Marvel not that I say unto thee, ye must be born again (John 3:7). Dear reader, consider for yourself: do you have biblical salvation, are you trusting in Christ alone for your salvation, have you been born again? If you cannot answer yes to these, then I urge you: look unto Jesus and be saved; believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved (Isaiah 45:22 and Acts 16:31).