



You Must Be Born Again

John 3:1-10

- I. NEW BIRTH IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY FOR ANYONE TO MEET THE LIFE-GIVING DEMANDS OF JESUS.**

John 3:7 (NIV) *You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.'*

- II. NEW BIRTH IS ABSOLUTELY IMPOSSIBLE FOR HUMANS TO ACHIEVE.**

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

- III. NEW BIRTH IS ENTIRELY A WORK OF GOD.**

John 3:8 (NIV) *The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.*

- IV. NEW BIRTH IS SUDDEN.**

- V. NEW BIRTH IS NOT NECESSARILY A CONSCIOUS EXPERIENCE.**

- VI. NEW BIRTH IS NOT A GROWTH PROCESS.**

VII. NEW BIRTH DOES NOT PRODUCE THE SAME RESULTS.

APPLICATION:

If you know that you are born again and that your new birth is entirely a work of God:

1. Thank God for imparting new life to you.
2. Give God the credit for your salvation.
3. Pray for the lost that God will a) impart spiritual life in them and b) open a door for them to hear the Gospel.
4. Be patient with God's timing in this work.
5. Don't lose heart. The results are in God's hands, not ours.

If you are unsure whether you are born again, pray that God will give you assurance. Use J.I. Packer's suggested guide to pray:

“Look to Christ, speak to Christ, cry to Christ, just as you are; confess your sin, your impenitence, your unbelief, and cast yourself on his mercy; ask him to give you a new heart, working in you true repentance and firm faith; ask him to take away your evil heart of unbelief and to write his law within you, that you may never henceforth stray from him. Turn to him and trust him as best you can and pray for grace to turn and trust more thoroughly; use the means of grace expectantly, looking to Christ to draw near to you as you seek to draw near to him; watch, pray, and read and hear God's Word, worship and commune with God's people, and so continue till you know in yourself beyond doubt that you are indeed a changed being, a penitent believer, and the new heart that you desire has been put within you.”¹

¹ J. I. Packer & Mark Dever, *In My Place Condemned He Stood* (Wheaton: Crossway Books, 2007), p. 138.