

Questions and Answers #18

What is the new Birth?

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This morning I would like to speak on the new birth, to answer the question, what is the new birth, and how do I know that I am born again. And for our text let's go to our Bibles and read from

John 3:3 *Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*

1 Peter 1: 23 *Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.*

Let us pray, Dear gracious Father we humbly approach Thee this morning with the question of the new birth because there are still so many following this Message that do not know for certain that they are truly born again. Because we have said that the new birth is believing the Message for the hour, we have raised up a second and third generation of children following this Message that have never known you in the power of your resurrection. Therefore, Father, we pray that you will help those who are not sure that they are born again to come to know whether they are or not. As your prophet said, *the new birth is an experience, something that takes place*. And we know it's not the experience that brings the new birth, but the new birth is experienced. We know when we have been born again.

So we see two things from our text concerning the new birth.

- 1: Without the new birth you will never see or understand the Kingdom of God.
- 2: You are born again by the Word of God which lives and abides forever. Therefore the life commensurate with this birth would have to attest to the Word of God.

Now, concerning point number 1, to be able to understand the Kingdom, of God and point number 2, the Life of the new birth will have to bear record to the Word of God, William Branham said the following.

Mary's belief 61-0121 P:30 *Now, listen, friends. Don't take a substitute. Don't just shake a man's hand and put your name on the book. That's... as far as it goes, that's all right. It might help you to get out of the saloon and get in a decent place and try to live right. That won't do it though. "Except a man be born again he cannot even see the kingdom of God." Now, "see" means "to understand." There's a lot of people that say they're born again and can't understand the message of God, can't see the Angel of the Lord. Their eyes are blinded, brother. Except a man be born of the Holy Ghost, the same Holy Ghost that wrote the Word will confirm the Word, and the same confirmation of the Holy Ghost in you... You see what I mean? It will bear record of Itself. Then our spirit bears record with His Spirit, because His Spirit bears recorded of His Word. "The Word of God is sharper, more powerful (Hebrews 4) than any two-edged sword, even piercing to the... asunder... and the marrow of the bone, and a discernor of the thought and the intents of the heart." That's "Thus saith the Lord," the Lord's*

Word, just exactly, Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever, appearing in His elected church.

IT SHALL BE EVEN AS IT WAS TOLD ME 50-0818 23 Anyhow, "to see" doesn't mean "to look at." *The word "see" means "to understand."* Jesus said, "Except a man be born of water and Spirit, he cannot see the Kingdom of God." In other words, he can't understand the Kingdom of God until he's born again. See?

Notice what Jesus tells us here. They hear but are not capable of understanding. Then what are they hearing? Not what is being said! But what they want to hear. Notice in the following quote that Brother Branham tells us the same thing. To hear means to understand, and to see means to understand, but just because you look with your eyes does not mean that you understand what you are looking at.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS COD 59-1223 60 Now, Jesus said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, except a man be born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God."...and then brother Branham added, So "see" means "to understand." Have you ever looked at anything, looking right at it, say, "Well, I just don't see it." See? "I just don't see it." You mean you don't understand it. See, see? You don't understand it. To see is "to understand." But with your eyes you look at anything. But with what's inside of you, you understand with, you see with that. See? With the eyes of God you look...

Now, what I am bringing to you this morning is very important because if you are not born again you will not go in the rapture. So you had better know that you are born again.

Super sign 62-0624 P:78 Now, let me tell you. *Anything outside of being born again will never reach the rapture. Unless there is a germ of life inside you, you'll perish. You cannot rise up again.*

Questions and answers COD 64-0823E P:106 317. Will all born again believers go in the rapture? No, just the remnant, just the remnant, not all born again believers. The Bible said, "And the rest of the dead lived not for a thousand years," and then they was raised up and separated, the sheep from the goats. *Not all born again will go in the... according to the Scripture.* 1040-Q-318 318. What is the evidence that a person is really filled with the Holy Ghost? **John 14:26:** He will... "When the Holy Ghost is come (See?), He will show you things to come." See? He'll be a... He'll perfect it; man made won't do it; and He is the Word. **When He the Holy Ghost is come, He will identify Himself in you with the Scripture. And that is the true sign that the Holy Spirit is in you, because It is the Word.**

HEAR RECOGNIZE ACT ON WORD 60-0221 30 First, faith cometh by hearing, hearing of the Word of God. Then the believer hears It, recognizes It, and acts on It. The carnal man will hear It, the sound of It, but never... "Hear" means to "understand It". Look at, is looking at something; but to see it, is to "understand it". "Except a man be born again, he cannot see or understand the Kingdom of God."

Now, what I am concerned for is the generation of children that have come up in Message churches and they have never been taught anything but the message, and yet what Message they have been taught in most cases has been wrong because they have been taught a oneness

doctrine concerning the Godhead. But there parents say, well you believe therefore you are born again. Listen, they believe because that is all they have been taught. So they have been indoctrinated to a creed or a movement, but that does not mean they have been born again.

To believe God has sent a prophet in our day does not get you into the family of God. A new Birth brings the very Life into you of god Himself.

Christ is the mystery 63-0728 P:120 *Look, Christ in you makes Him the center of Life of the revelation. See? Christ's Life in you makes Him the center of the revelation. Christ in the Bible, makes the Bible a complete revelation of Christ. Christ in you makes you the complete revelation of the whole thing. See, what God's trying to do? What is the new birth then? You say, "Well, Brother Branham, what is the new birth?" It is the revelation of Jesus Christ personally to you. Amen. See? Not you joined a church, you shook a hand; you done something different; you said a creed; you promised to live by a code of rules; but Christ, the Bible... He is the Word that was revealed to you. And no matter what anybody says, what takes place, it's Christ. Pastor, priest, whatever it might be... It's Christ in you. That is the revelation that the Church was built upon.*

Second coming 55-0220A P:28 *Now, you can have a intellectual faith by hearing the Word, and perceiving it in your mind, and accepting it upon those basis, which is intellectual faith. But the faith that Jesus was speaking of in Saint John 5:24, "He that heareth My Word and believeth on Him that sent Me, has Everlasting Life," that doesn't come from intellectual faith; that comes from borned again experience. As a man thinketh in his heart, he's borned again. And from there comes forth the thought, his soul, not from his mind, but from his soul, something that tells him that it's wrong. And contrary it's wrong. Amen. I hope you get it. You know it anyhow.*

From **Christ is the mystery 63-0728 P:128** brother Branham tells us *But the only way that you're saved is by knowing Him by revelation.*

And there is a big difference between knowing something as a creed and then having it revealed to you down in your soul. Too many people have seen their children come up in this message and either just be good church people or go out from the church all together. That is because they are not born again, and I wonder sometimes if the parents had no experience with God either.

Christ is the mystery 63-0728 P:130 *Paul knew Him by revelation. That's how we know Him today, is the only way you could know Him. Not say, "I'm Methodist." That means nothing. "I'm Baptist." That means nothing. "I'm Catholic." That means nothing. But by the revelation that God has revealed the Word to you. He is the Word, and the Word, how you know It's revealed, It lives Itself and expresses Itself through you.*

Now, brother Branham said if you have received the Life of Christ in your it will express itself out from you. It has to. We are not called to become Branhamites? God never called us for that purpose. He has called us to become what we were meant to be, and that is sons.

I will never forget a young man came to me years ago and said, I always believed that I'm God's elect, and I said you can believe what you want to but unless you are born again what good will it do you. There are seeds planted that never came to fruit, they fell among the thorns.

So don't think, praise God I was born into a Message Church so I am ok, because unless you have received a new birth you are dead while you yet live.

Christ is the mystery 63-0728 P:121 *It's Christ being revealed, and He is the Word. And **when the Word is revealed, It expresses Itself.** See? That's God's purpose for Jesus Christ, was to express Himself, to take His own laws and live by His laws, and fulfill His law by death. Christ, God died in flesh in order to condemn sin in the flesh that He might bring to Himself a glorious Bride, redeemed back, that will believe only in the Word of God and not swap It, like Eve did, for intellectual conceptions of men. You see it?*

And that is the problem that I see even among those who claim to have the doctrine right. If they have it by revelation and not just an intellectual conception, then it has a life to it, and it must live itself out in their lives, or it isn't revealed to them. Faith is a revelation and if it is truly revealed it must build up an energy and that energy must manifest itself in an action. That is what Life is all about. Dead horse don't kick, and dead people spiritually do not manifest that energy of God concerning the revelation of Christ. They are just preoccupied with the cares of this life like the rest of the world, and except for the church they attend or the ministry they ascribe to they are no different than the rest of the world.

Christ is the mystery 63-0728 P:124 *The new birth is Christ, is a revelation. God has revealed to you this great mystery, and **that's the new birth.** Now, **what are you going to do when you get all that group together, where the revelation is perfectly in harmony, and God expressing it through His Word by the same actions, the same things that He did, making the Word manifest? Oh, if the Church only knew its position. It will one day. Then, the rapture will go when it knows what it is.***

By the same actions he did. That's what he said here. Now, the new birth is a real event. Many people look at it as though it just sort of happened and they are not sure when it happened but they presume they have it because they attend the right church. That is hogwash, and the person that thinks that has not been born again. Many say, well we have brother Branham, we believe he is a prophet of God. We have Br. Vayle we believe he is a teacher. And that sort of thinking is carnal. You won't make the rapture based on Br. Branham's life or Br. Vayle's Life. You will make the rapture based on being a Born again Son or daughter of God period. And to be born again is a life altering experience. And if you Life has not been altered, to serve the Living God, then I wonder if you have been truly born again.

Oh, you might talk the talk and walk the walk, but are you alive to Christ and what he is doing in this hour? There is a world wide revival taking place among the bride right now, and yet most Americans who claim to believe the Message are not even aware of what God is doing, and not only is He doing it, but he is confirming it with signs and wonders.

Is your life worthy 63-0630E P:80 *I was telling someone this afternoon in a little meeting; I said, "Every son that's born of God has to be tried first, chastened." And I remember when I had mine. On my greatest hour... **When a man's born again, there's a little spot like the size of his fingernail that God injects into his system, and it falls into his heart and there anchors. Then Satan makes him prove it. And if that ain't there, you're gone.***

Jesus said in **Matthew 13: 23** *But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.* And William Branham taught us that to “see” means to understand.

Now, notice how brother Branham tells us that the Holy Spirit comes and anoints our mental Faith and then it becomes a spiritual revelation that builds upon Word upon Word upon Word. that brother Branham says when these streams of Grace pour in upon our mental faith. Then he says When them streams of grace has poured into that mental faith that you've got, then upon this, a spiritual revelation. Now, Peter. The one who Jesus praised for receiving the Revelation of the Godhead, that there is One God and He had a Son, and Jesus was that Son of God. In **1 Peter 1:13** he tells us *Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ*; Notice he says at the end time there will be a certain Grace that will be brought to you at the time of the Revelation of Jesus Christ. And in 1 Corinthians chapter 1 we read, **1 Corinthians 1; 3 - 10** *Grace be unto you, and peace from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank My God always on your behalf, for the [Grace] of God which is given you by Jesus Christ; that in every thing you are to be enriched [this Grace brings on a maturity like fertilizer] by Him, in all utterance [Logos] and in all knowledge; Even as the testimony of Jesus Christ was confirmed in you: [This is the same as in 2 Thessalonians 1: 10 when God comes to be glorified in His saints. When the very mind of God comes into His elect seed.] And the reason for this is so that you will not come behind in no gift [Charisma which is a spiritual endowment]; waiting for the Apokalupsis [Revealing or unveiling] of our Lord Jesus Christ. Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Romans 4: 7 - 8 *“Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.”* So we find then, the identifiable characteristic of the new birth is that the people will be caught up into the Revelation of Jesus Christ as spoken in **1 Peter 1: 13** *Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ*;

And as this Revelation breaks, we'll understand the Grace that comes with it, bringing us into the same mindset so that we might all cry out in One accord, " Grace, Grace, unto It!" which we find in the following scripture...

1 Thessalonians 3: 13 *To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.*

1 Corinthians 1: 10 *God is faithful, by Whom ye were called unto the fellowship of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."*

So you see, if we have the mind of the Father and we know to have His mind we must have His spirit, and we know that by One spirit we are all baptized into one body, the body of Christ. So it's already a done deal. So as we see from **1 Peter 1: 13** and **1 Corinthians 1: 4-10**, God has given us the spirit of Grace in this hour to have the mind of Christ. And He said, "let the mind

that was in Christ be in you", so it is possible for you to have God's own thoughts within your very mind, and that is what brother Branham was talking about, in that last quotation we read from The Spoken word is the Original Seed. Notice how He begins quoting from John 5:19 where Jesus said, "the son can of Himself do nothing, but whatsoever He seeth the Father do, that the Son doeth likewise."

That is what **Ephesians 1:** is all about, that we were in His mind before the world began ordained to come forth to the adoption of Children by coming into the very mind of the Father.

Ephesians 1:3 *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: 4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: 5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. 7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; 8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; 9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: 10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: 11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: 12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. 13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, 14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory. 15 Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints, 16 Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; 17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: 18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, 19 And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, 20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,*