

## A Study On Regeneration

By Pastor Harry Richardson

The radical renewal of a person's inner being by the work of God's Spirit.

### The need for regeneration

[Jn 3:3](#)

**John 3:3 (NASB95) — 3** Jesus answered and said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

See also [Eph 2:1](#); [Eph 2:5](#); [Col 2:13](#)

**Ephesians 2:1 (NASB95) — 1** And you were dead in your trespasses and sins,

**Ephesians 2:5 (NASB95) — 5** even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

**Colossians 2:13 (NASB95) — 13** When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions,

### Regeneration is a work of God

#### It originates in God the Father

[Jn 1:12–13](#) Regeneration cannot be controlled by human actions or rituals; it is an act of God's sovereign will.

**John 1:12–13 (NASB95) — 12** But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, **13** who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

#### It is made possible by the resurrection of Jesus Christ

[1 Pe 1:3](#)

**1 Peter 1:3 (NASB95) — 3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

See also [Eph 2:4–5](#)

**Ephesians 2:4–5 (NASB95)** — **4** But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, **5** even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

#### **It occurs through the hearing of the Christian gospel**

[Jas 1:18](#)

**James 1:18 (NASB95)** — **18** In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the word of truth, so that we would be a kind of first fruits among His creatures.

See also [1 Pe 1:23–25](#) The “word of God” is the good news about Jesus Christ.

**1 Peter 1:23–25 (NASB95)** — **23** for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God.

**24** For, “ALL FLESH IS LIKE GRASS, AND ALL ITS GLORY LIKE THE FLOWER OF GRASS. THE GRASS WITHERS, AND THE FLOWER FALLS OFF, **25** BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD ENDURES FOREVER.” And this is the word which was preached to you.

#### **It is effected by God’s Spirit**

[Jn 3:5–8](#)

**John 3:5–8 (NASB95)** — **5** Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. **6** “That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. **7** “Do not be amazed that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ **8** “The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

See also [Jn 6:63](#); [Tt 3:5](#)

**John 6:63 (NASB95)** — **63** “It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.

**Titus 3:5 (NASB95)** — **5** He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,

#### **Regeneration is given to those who believe in Jesus Christ**

[1 Jn 5:1](#)

**1 John 5:1 (NASB95)** — **1** Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the child born of Him.

#### **Baptism is the sign of regeneration**

[Jn 3:5](#) Water here is seen by some, though not all, interpreters as a reference to baptism, administered by the church to new converts as a sign of their new birth and their entry into the Christian community.

**John 3:5 (NASB95) — 5** Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

See also [Ac 2:38–39](#); [Eph 5:25–26](#); [Tt 3:5](#)

**Acts 2:38–39 (NASB95) — 38** Peter said to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. **39** “For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.”

**Ephesians 5:25–26 (NASB95) — 25** Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, **26** so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

**Titus 3:5 (NASB95) — 5** He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,

## The results of regeneration

### Entry into God’s kingdom

[Jn 3:5](#)

**John 3:5 (NASB95) — 5** Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

### A new holiness of life

[1 Jn 3:9](#)

**1 John 3:9 (NASB95) — 9** No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

See also [1 Jn 5:18](#); [1 Pe 2:1–2](#)

**1 John 5:18 (NASB95) — 18** We know that no one who is born of God sins; but He who was born of God keeps him, and the evil one does not touch him.

**1 Peter 2:1–2 (NASB95) — 1** Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander, **2** like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation,

## Love for other people

[1 Jn 4:7](#)

**1 John 4:7 (NASB95) — 7** Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

See also [1 Jn 5:2](#)

**1 John 5:2 (NASB95) — 2** By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments.

## Victory over the world's sinful pattern of life

[1 Jn 5:4](#)

**1 John 5:4 (NASB95) — 4** For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.