

THE BIRTH OF THE NEW BIRTH IN THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST

1 Peter 1:3; John 3:3

Minus the auxiliary phrases, 1 Pt.1:3 makes 1 point: we are ____ again through the resurrection of Jesus Christ
1 Pt.1:3 answers the question that Nicodemus asked in John 3:4: "How can a man be _____ when he is old?"

I. THE NEW BIRTH

A. The New Birth Is a Matter of _____ Change

- 1) Thru the new birth, Jesus changes a human being at his most basic level; his very _____
- 2) The new birth goes much deeper than a change of opinions, political affiliation or even _____
- 3) How radical is this change? Spurgeon said, "A man that is not born again could not enjoy _____"
- 4) Our culture reverses this truth: many believe the kingdom of God must be changed to fit their natures rather than their natures be _____ through the new birth to fit them for the kingdom of God

B. The New Birth Is Beyond _____ Capability

- 1) I can talk like a Christian, act like a Christian, but no one has the ability to give himself a new _____
- 2) 1 Peter 1:3 assures us that "according to His abundant mercy _____ has begotten us again"

C. The New Birth Is Just the Beginning: The _____ Is Yet to Come

- 1) 1 Pt.1:3 says we are born again to a living _____ : we look to the future—the best is yet to come
- 2) We have a living hope because we have a living Savior: no matter what, in the end, we _____

D. The New Birth Implies Life and _____

- 1) The moment a baby is born, we expect him to eat and grow: it is no different after the new _____
- 2) A baby who does not grow is _____ or malnourished and we immediately address the problem

II. THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

A. We Are Born Again by _____ with the Resurrected Christ

- 1) According to Eph.2:1, we were all born with an old nature that was _____ in trespasses and sins
- 2) We were spiritually dead but by union with the resurrected Christ we are now spiritually _____
- 3) The spiritual resurrection described in Eph.2:5-7 is another description of the new _____

B. The Same _____ that Raised Christ from the Dead Gives Us New Life

- 1) The same power that God worked in Christ to raise Him from the dead works in the lives of _____
- 2) This is why the resurrection is part of the gospel: we must believe in Jesus' resurrection to be _____
 - a) When God raised up Jesus, He demonstrated in human _____ His great resurrecting power
 - b) To refuse to believe in Jesus' resurrection is to reject the _____ that can give us new life/birth

C. The Resurrected Christ Is the _____ Spirit

- 1) 1 Cor.15:45: When Jesus arose & conquered the grave, He grasped the _____ to give spiritual life
- 2) Christianity is more than believing the right doctrines; it is also a matter of establishing a _____ with a person—Jesus Christ, who died to bear our sins and who rose again to give us a new nature