

## 6. What is a Born Again Christian?

Jesus makes it very clear that we must be born again to be saved. But what is being born again? How do we know if we are a born again Christian? What does that mean?

Let's look at some scripture:

John 3:3 Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

John 3:5-8 Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to the spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' 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."

1 Peter 1:22-23 Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart. For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.

2 Corinthians 5:16-17 So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

First, we are born in the flesh as a baby. When we start our spiritual life with Christ and are saved, we are born again, but this time we are born in the spirit. We transform from living in the world to living in the spirit. When we are a born again Christian, there is no change outwardly. We still look the same. But in our hearts and in our spirit, we are different. We have started a new life – a life in the spirit with Christ.

Some people drastically change their lifestyle and personalities when they're born again. For me, my lifestyle or personality didn't change much, but my way of thinking became very different. Instead of relying on my own strength, I started relying on Jesus. Before I was born again, I was very independent, relied on my own decision-making abilities, and used anger as my most effective tool to get things done. The Lord quickly taught me that my decisions weren't always the best and that I desperately needed His guidance in every aspect of my life. It took the Lord a bit longer though to get my anger level down and have peace in my life. Anger was all I knew. But the process of growing spiritually, and realizing how faithful the Lord is, brought a wonderful peace in my heart and that horrible anger eventually subsided.

So, are you living in the spirit or living in the flesh? If you're living in the flesh, you live in worldly ideals. The world, and all it has to offer, molds you into what you are and how you live. If you are born again and living in the spirit, your life is Christ centered, and the Lord molds you into what you are and how you live.

Is Christ foremost and center in your life? If yes, then rest assured, you are born again.