

Jesus said, “Truly, Truly, I say to You, Unless You are Born Again, You cannot see the Kingdom of God.” John 3:3

Jesus said, “Truly, Truly, I say to You, Unless You are Born of Water and of the Spirit, You cannot enter the Kingdom of God.” John 3:5

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What does “The Kingdom of God” mean?

It means the place where the Name of God is kept holy and sacred, the place where God’s rule is being obeyed, and the place where God’s will is being done, as it is in Heaven. Luke 11:2.

In the Kingdom of God there is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Romans 14:17.

This is the place of God’s dwelling and His presence.

To enter the Kingdom of God means to enter the place of eternal salvation and the place of eternal life. Matthew 25:34, 46, **We enter the Kingdom of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ**, when we repent and believe the Gospel. Colossians 1:12- 14. In our water baptism we are baptized into the King, the Lord Jesus. Galatians 3:27.

In this Church age the Kingdom of God is in our hearts, when we repent and believe the Gospel, walk in obedience to God’s will, and go on bringing forth fruits worthy of repentance. Luke 17:21, Luke 22:29, Mark 1:15, Acts 2:38, Acts 26:20.

At this time the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of darkness are both present together on the earth. Matthew 12:28, 12:26. The fullness of the Kingdom of God will come on earth at the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. 1Thessalonians 4:13-18.

What does it mean to be “Born Again”?

When we are born naturally we have a human mother and father.

We are born with a nature that is self-centred, self-pleasing, and selfish. 1Corinthians 6:9, 10, Galatians 5:19-21, 2Timothy 3:2. The “fall of man” in Genesis 3:1-5, has had very serious consequences for all the descendants of Adam and Eve.

We are not born naturally with the love of God in our hearts, to love and serve God and others as ourselves. Matthew 22:37-39.

To be able to know God, Who is love, 1John 4:8, we must be born again and receive from God a new heart and a new Spirit to know and love God and serve Him. John 3:3, 5, Acts 15:9, Acts 26:18, 1Peter 1:23, Ezekiel 36:25-27, Jeremiah 31:31-34.

By natural birth we are born as self-pleasing rebels and enemies of God. Romans 5:8, 10.

By the “New Birth” we are reborn by the power of the Holy Spirit through faith in the Word of God, to know, love and serve God.

The process of the “New Birth” involves repentance and faith and a transformed life style.

Repentance involves confessing all our sins to God and choosing to turn away from them.

And secondly it is choosing to surrender our lives totally and unreservedly to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and God, so that we walk in obedience to the will of God. Matthew 4:17, Matthew 7:21-23, Mark 1:15, Luke 6:46, Luke 13:3, 5, John 14:15, Acts 2:38, Acts 20:21, Acts 26:20, 1Corinthians 7:19, 1John 1:9, Revelation 3:19.

Repentance is confessing and turning from our sins, and changing who is “Boss” in our lives.

Jesus said, “Repent and **believe the Gospel- Good News**”, Mark 1:15. The Gospel that Jesus tells us to believe is that “Christ died for our sins on the Cross, was buried, and rose again the third day from the dead. After He had risen from the dead, He was seen for forty days by many of His disciples.” 1Corinthians 15:1-6, (Romans 10:6-10.) At the end of the forty days He ascended into heaven, Acts 1:9-11, and sat at the right hand of God the Father. Colossians 3:1, Hebrews 1:3, Psalm 110:1.

Through faith in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, the spotless Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world, our sins are washed away and we are fully justified before God and declared totally righteous in His sight. Romans 5:1, 9, Romans 4:3, 5, John 1:29, 1Peter 2:24, Revelation 1:5, Ephesians 1:7, Colossians 1:13, 14, Titus 3:5, 6.

As a result of this “New Birth” through repentance and faith, we become new creations of God’s Word and the Holy Spirit Power, and are enabled to live a new life of obedience to God and love for our fellow man. Matthew 22:37-39, 2Corinthians 5:17.

By believing and proclaiming God’s promises, God enables us to obey His will. 2Peter 1:3, 4, Philippians 2:13, Romans 6:1-14, Deuteronomy 30:11-14, Romans 10:6-10, Ezekiel 36:25-27, Psalm 119:9, 11.

In John 3:5 the phrase “born of the water” means to be born of the water of the Word of God. God’s Word is like water. Ephesians 5:26 says, “The washing of water by the Word.” God’s Word is the truth and washes us clean from lies and untruth. Psalm 119:9.

“We are born again by the Word of God which lives and abides for ever.” 1Peter 1:23.