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BORN AGAIN, A CHANGE IN BODY NOT IN MIND

"Born Again" is a major topic in the churches today. You will hear people in the churches, on the street, at work, even in jail, making the statement, "since I have been born again." Let's take a close look at this, and see if these people are making a true statement or giving themselves a false sense of security. If you have any knowledge of the Holy Scriptures you know the Lord has a time set for everything, and it will not come to past until it is time.

With that being said, let's jump into a conversation that the God of Israel and a religious leader by the name Nicodemus is having on the subject "born again." Pay very close attention and you will see the Lord makes it very simple.

John 3:1 There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:
2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.
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.**

Notice verse 3, except a man is **born again**, he cannot see the kingdom of God. We have just learned something here. If you are not born again you can not see the kingdom of God. As we go further you will understand this. Remember there is a time for everything.

Nicodemus asked a very good question. Take a look at the next set of verses.

John 3:4 Nicodemus saith unto him, **How can a man be born when he is old?** Can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?
5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.**

*In verse 5, born of the water in this case is the Word of God. Notice the Lord mentions the kingdom of God again, but He adds a little more information. He says "Except a man be born of water and of the **Spirit**, **he cannot** enter into the kingdom of God. When he mentions spirit He means exactly that. Watch how the Lord gives something physical to describe exactly what He means.*

John 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Notice He made a difference between flesh and spirit.

John 3:7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: **so is every one that is born of the Spirit.**

Notice He compared the wind to a spirit. Can you see the wind? No! We have seen things being blown around by the wind, but we have never seen the wind. If you are born of the spirit you are like the wind. This is when you are truly born again, when you are born of the spirit.

Notice what Jesus does in these next few verses. Remember, this is after His resurrection.

John 20:26 And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, **the doors being shut, and stood in the midst**, and said, Peace be unto you.
27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.
28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, **My Lord and my God.**

Note two very important things within these verses. 1. Jesus appeared in the midst of them and the doors were shut. 2. Thomas called Him God. When Jesus came out of the grave he was born into the God family (we will have a greater understanding as we go further in this class). When Thomas called Jesus God was he still a man? Take a look at this verse in the book of Numbers.

Numbers 23:19 **God is not a man**, that he should lie; **neither the son of man**, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? Or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

Note what the verse says, God is not a man, neither is he the son of man. While Jesus walked with His disciples He called Himself the son of man. He was exactly that. He was born of a woman. But, when he was raised from the dead He was no longer in the man family neither was He flesh and blood. If he was flesh and blood He would not have been able to appear in the middle of the room with his apostles. Take a look at these verses. Can a flesh and blood man do this?

Luke 24:27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.
28 And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: and he made as though he would have gone further.
29 But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them.
30 And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them.
31 And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.

Look at verse 31, once they realized that it was Jesus they spoke with, what happen? He vanished out of their sight. Remember in John chapter 3 and verse 8. The Lord gave an example

of how a spirit would look. He likened a spirit to the wind.(John 3:8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.) Can you or can you not see the wind? Let's move on. In Genesis the Lord set things in order. Take a look at Genesis and see the distinction between man and God.

Genesis 1:11 And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit **after his kind**, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.
12 And the earth brought forth grass and herb yielding seed after **his kind**, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, **after his kind**: and God saw that it was good.
24 And God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature after **his kind**, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth **after his kind"** and it was so.
25 And God made the beast of the earth **after his kind**, and cattle **after their kind**, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth **after his kind**: and God saw that it was good.

Note these things which were created were after its kind. Notice the change in the next scripture.

Genesis 1:26 And God said, **Let us make man in our image, after our likeness:** and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Notice man is made in the image of God after his likeness not after His kind. Meaning we look like Him but, we are not made up of the same substance. Take a look at Genesis chapter 2 verse 7. There you will find the 2 elements that men are made of.

Genesis 2:7 And the **LORD God** formed man of **the dust of the ground,** and breathed into his nostrils **the breath of life;** and **man became a living soul.**

Notice what it says, man was formed from the dust of the ground, and the Lord breathed the breath of life into his nostrils. Dust and breath that's it, nothing else. Take note also it says man became a living soul. It did not say a soul was placed in the man. You are the soul?

Men also have another similarity other than the outward image of The Godhead members. Notice what the Lord says in Genesis chapter 3.

Genesis 3:22 And the **LORD God** said, Behold, **the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil:** and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:
23 Therefore the **LORD God** sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.

24 So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

Notice what the Lord says, "the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil." If Adam didn't listen to Eve we would only have two commandments. 1. Be fruitful and multiply and 2. Do not eat from the tree of knowledge good and evil (listening to Satan). Man would have never died. Everyone from Adam until eternity would still be alive. Let's take a look at man's potential.

Psalms 82:1 God standeth in the congregation of the mighty; he judgeth among the gods.
2 How long will ye judge unjustly, and accept the persons of the wicked? Selah.

Who are these mighty ones that God judgeth among the gods? These are not pagan gods that the Lord judge. Pagan gods have no might nor any breath in them. Take a look and see who these gods are.

Psalms 82:6 I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most High.
7 But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes.

These gods are men. Why? Look at the 7th verse again. But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes. Spirits don't die; men do (flesh and blood). To give you a better understanding of this, take a look at what Jesus said to the Pharisees. Pay close attention what's being said.

John 10:30 I and my Father are one.
31 Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him.
32 Jesus answered them, Many good works have I showed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me?
33 The Jews answered him, saying, for a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God.
34 Jesus answered them, "**Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods?**"

Notice Jesus quoted the 6th verse in the 82nd Psalm. Now take a look at the next verse.

35 If he called them gods, **unto whom the word of God came,** and the scripture cannot be broken;

So you see, He called them gods unto whom the Word of God came. If you continue in His Word you will be in the God family, but you must endure this world to make it into the kingdom. This will take place at an appointed time in the near future.

Pay close attention to what Paul he says below.

Romans 8:9 **But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit,** if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man has not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

Now if you look at the verse above you will say, "See, I told you we are in the spirit." Then I would say to you. "What spirit are you in?" Remember, Jesus compares someone born of the spirit to the wind. Look closely at the verse. Notice something familiar? Take a look. "If so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you." If the Spirit of God dwells within you, you are in the spirit. How can the spirit of God dwell within you? Before we continue in Romans 8, let's have the Master even Jesus clear this up.

John 6:63 **It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.**

Notice what the Lord says, "The flesh profiteth nothing, the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life". The spirit that dwells within you is His word. His word gives you life eternal. Paul is on the same page as the Master as always. Plain and simple you are not walking in the flesh or in other words in the ways of the world. You are walking in the spirit, or you are obeying the Word of God. Let's return to Romans Chapter 8 and read it with some understanding.

Romans 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.
10 **And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin;** but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

Look at the 10th verse, "And if Christ be in you". How can Christ be in you again? His word is in your mind. Look at the next part of the verse. "The body is dead because of sin". Notice what it says, the body is dead to sin? This isn't a physical death. The next verse will explain.

Romans 8:11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also **quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.**
12 **Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.**

Look at verse 11, "quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you." So you see, a person is very much alive physically, but if you don't follow the word of God you are a dead man walking. Take a look at these next verses.

Romans 8:13 **For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.**
14 **For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.**

Paul simply means bring this sinful body under control and then you will be led by the word of God. As long as you follow the word of God you are considered a son or daughter of God. This spirit is simply the word of God, not that you are a spirit being.

After reading these verses you will see as Solomon says it is a time for everything. Take a look at what Paul is saying.

Romans 8:21 Because the creature itself also **shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.**
22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.
23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, **waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.**

Our bodies must be changed and this will not take place until the first resurrection. This is why Paul makes these statements. We ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body. He did say waiting correct? Even Job was aware of this. Take a look.

Job 14:14 If a man die, shall he live again? **All the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come.**

Take a look at Philippians and you will see Job and Paul are on the same page.

Philippians 3:20 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:
21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

Now we know we must be changed physically, let's see when this will take place what type of body we will have and why. Paul will show you this in I Corinthians the 15th chapter. Take a close look and you will understand why the Lord said in John chapter 3 flesh and blood can not see the kingdom of God. Pay close attention, Paul will repeat himself several times.

I Corinthians 15:35 But some man will say, **How are the dead raised up? and with what** body do they come?

Why would Paul mention the dead being raised?

I Corinthians 15:36 Thou fool, **that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die:**
37 And that which thou sowest, **thou sowest not that body that shall be,** but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain:

38 But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body.
39 All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds.
40 There are also **celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial:** but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another.
41 There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory.
42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:
43 It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; **it is raised in power:**
44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.
45 And so it is written, The **first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.**
46 Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.
47 The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven.
48 As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly.
49 And as we have borne the image of the earthy, **we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.**
50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

*Look at verse 50, notice what it says "flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God". Remembers Jesus said something similar to this in John chapter 3. Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be **born again,** he cannot see the kingdom of God. This is the Fathers Kingdom, which Jesus spoke of. During the Lord's thousand-year reign with the saint, flesh and blood beings will still be on the earth along with spirit beings. There will be only spirit beings after the second resurrection. Remember what Nicodemus asked the Lord? He asked Him, " how could a man be **born again** when he was already old?" And the Lord answered by saying, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be **born of water and of the Spirit,** he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit." In order for you to be **born again** you must be changed into a spiritual body. When will this take place?*

51 Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, **but we shall all be changed,**
52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, **at the last trump:** for the trumpet shall sound, and **the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.**

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, **and this mortal must put on immortality.**

At the last trump, and not a second before. No one can make the statement, "I am born again" But the Lord that came down from heaven which is Jesus. He is the only one that rose from the grave and remained alive. Let's take a look at some verses showing He is the only begotten from the dead.

Acts 13:28 And though they found no cause of death in him, yet desired they Pilate that he should be slain.
29 And when they had fulfilled all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree, and laid him in a sepulchre.
30 But God raised him from the dead:
31 And he was seen many days of them which came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are his witnesses unto the people.
32 And we declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers,
33 God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, **Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.**

When the Father raised him from the grave that was when He became the Son of God. Let's take a look at the 2nd Psalm.

Psalms 2:7 I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, **Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.**

Let's pursue this, so you will not have any doubt in you mind about when Jesus became the Son of God. Take a look at Romans chapter 1.

Romans 1:1 Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God,
2 (Which he had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures,)
3 Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;
4 And **declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:**

When was he declared to be the Son of God? He was declared the Son of God at resurrection of the dead. Let's take a look at a few more verse showing He is the only one that has truly been born again.

John 1:10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.
11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

12 But as many as received him, to them gave **he power to become the sons of God,** even to them that believe on his name:
13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as **of the only begotten of the Father,**) full of grace and truth.

Take a look at the 12th verse. It states, "The ones that received him he gave them power to become the sons of God." Remember that you will only become a Son of God if you follow His word. Look at the 14th verse. Notice it says he is the only begotten of the Father. What does only mean? If He is the only one born of God how can anyone make the statement they are born again. Only means only. If you are born of God you will not be able to sin any longer. Read this carefully in I John.

I John 3:9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: **and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.**

Can anyone say they commit no sin? No! If you are born (born again) into the God family you must be a spirit being. Here is another verse stating Jesus is the only begotten son.

John 3:17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.
18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of **the only begotten Son of God.**

Now let's go to the Book of Colossians take a look at these verses.

Colossians 1:17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.
18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

Notice what it says, "He is the first born from the dead, that in all things he might have the preeminence". First means first. Take a look at these verses in Romans.

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to **them that love God,** to them who are the called according to his purpose.
29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, **that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.**

If he is the first born of many brethren what would that imply? That will let you know there are more to come. Take a look at this verse in I John.

I John 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, **and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.**

Notice what's being said, "it doth not yet appear what we shall be but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is". Jesus was the first of many brethren, and those of us that walk in His law will be considered as family members. We will be able to see Him in His full strength when we are changed. If we are brethren and will receive a body like His, we have made the cut. Born again is a physical change not a change of mind. If born again was based on our mind each time we commit a sin and ask for forgiveness, we will be born again and again and again. Take a look in the Book of Luke and see how the Lord compares us to the angels after the resurrection.

Luke 20:34 And Jesus answering said unto them, The children of this world marry, and are given in marriage:
35 But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage:
36 Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection.

*If you come up in the first resurrection you have been found worthy, and have obtained eternal life, this is when you are **born again.** Remember what Jesus said to Nicodemus? "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God". He also said, "I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and **of the Spirit,** he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." Now read this next verse and you will understand what Jesus was saying.*

John 4:23 But **the hour cometh,** and now is, **when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth:** for the Father seeketh such to worship him.
24 God is a Spirit: and **they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.**

This time hasn't came to pass as of yet. You must be a spirit being to worship the Father. Now, you should understand the statement Paul made in I Corinthians chapter 15, "Flesh and blood can not inherit the kingdom of God." Let's go to one last set of verses.

Hebrews 12:6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.
7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?
8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.
9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: **shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?**

Take a look at the 9th verse, "shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? God the Father is the father of spirits, and in order for you to worship Him you must be a spirit. No one has been born again except the ***ONLY BEGOTTEN SON,*** *which is the Lord from heaven, Jesus. The people err greatly by saying they are born again, they have given themselves over seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.*
They have turned their ears from the truth believing in cunningly devised fables giving themselves a false sense of security. The Pastors are the blame for this. The Pastors have scattered the sheep, and have allowed the sheep to be slaughtered. By not teaching them what thus said the Lord, but they follow doctrine of men. Read the book for yourself and don't allow someone to kill you. Meaning the second death which is the Lake of Fire burning with brimstone were there will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Remember the next life is forever, this one (meaning the flesh) is temporary.

May the Lord add a blessing to the reading of His word, in Jesus name. Amen