

“Rebirthing”

By Brother Kenneth Ray

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What are we going to re-birth? We’ll talk about that later. Nicodemus thought that was talking about entering back into his mother’s womb. No, that’s not what that’s talking about. Even so, rebirthing can be a painful experience, just in the natural. Sometimes it’s a piece of cake...

We should renew our minds daily (Romans 12:2). Today is the day of salvation (2 Corinthians 6:2).

Re-birth—1) a new or second birth as through spiritual regeneration. 2) reawakening, renaissance, revival.

From this definition we see how, when we speak of re-birth or re-birthing, we could be talking about a Spiritual regeneration; in the church this is commonly called being born again. The Bible gives two accounts of this Spiritual regeneration:

Matthew 19:28-29 ...ye which have followed Me, in the regeneration...

He goes on to say, “every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.” This account is before the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (as you can probably guess because Jesus was speaking). He said, “**Follow Me,**” to two fishermen, who left their nets, and their father—they were not fishing for recreation, this was the family business, but they forsook it. You may be thinking, “If I have this regeneration, I might have to change the way I live.” You might, or you might not; it depends on how you are living.

The second account is in the book of Titus; this account is after the resurrection of Christ.

Titus 3:4-7 ... according to his mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration...

Washing—[G3067]—bath, i.e. (figuratively) baptism—washing.

The love of God has appeared to all of us, on crucifixion day. That was the first glimpse of His love; His final act of love will be when he takes us home. Not by our works; we got baptized, but it’s not because I prayed, or gave in the offering. It says “abundantly.” It’s not just for this side of the room, and everyone else misses out; it’s not just for America, and no other countries can take part; there’s plenty to go around.

Here there is hope, there is strength. Fear may stop you in your tracks, but if you have hope, you can achieve things that you never thought you could. Why do people play the lottery (I’m not talking about whether the lottery is right or wrong)? Because they have hope that they will win. Why do people watch sports? Because they hope that their team will win. As saints, aren’t you hoping to win?

If you walk, you have to eat. If you drive or take public transportation, you need fuel. Kirk has Bible study at his house on Wednesday nights; not because it makes him look good, but because he hopes that you will win.

Grace—[[G5485](#)]**—**graciousness of manner or act. Divine influence upon the heart and its reflection in the life, including gratitude.

In Matthew we see that while Jesus was alive, He was the One who you went to for this re-birth, and the conditions of it rested on Him and with Him (He had the power to heal, to forgive sin, and to grant salvation). After His death (today), this rebirth is by baptism in Jesus name (Acts 2:38); repent, be baptized in His name, and receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. Let me point out that baptism is washing away the sin of our spiritual man only; our flesh still needs to be washed on a daily basis (maybe twice a day, depending on your work).

This is important, because in order to have a new life, you need to get rid of the old one. As new believers, we tend to lean more on Jesus and His every word; our knees bend easier and we pray more. We are aware that we don't know much, so we depend on Christ for a guide. Our hearts are tender and we'll do anything He asks of us.

As we continue, we get old, we think instead of search, we ask fewer questions, but have more answers, we don't hear too good, because we're too busy telling what we know, and we endure hardships. We go through things. We find a need of revival.

Revival—bringing or coming back into use, attention or being, after a decline.

We need to revisit or count our blessings. Come back to the understanding that it took doing something to obtain the blessings. Maybe we've stop giving hope; maybe we've started judging. Maybe we've stopped being Christians, and started playing church.

You know why fishermen like telling stories? To remind themselves of the good times. The Bible says that David encouraged himself in the Lord (1 Samuel 30:6). How do you suppose he did that? By remembering the battle with Goliath? Maybe by remembering his experience with Bathsheba, and how his child died, but that God kept him through all of that.

The Bible says that we have a calling on our lives. What is your job in Jesus? It's not to come to church on Sunday morning, I'll tell you that.

Romans 11:29 For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

You can't be sorry that you're a good teacher.

Ephesians 6:7 With all good will doing service as to the Lord and not unto men.

You can't serve two masters (Matthew 6:24). A double minded man is unstable in all his ways (James 1:8).

In the movie, 'The Lion King', there is a scene where Rafiki offers to show Simba his father. When Simba looks for his father, Mufasa calls to him, and tells Simba that Simba has forgotten him. Simba says, no, he hasn't, but Mufasa tells "[You have forgotten who you are and so have forgotten me.](#)" And as he goes away, he repeats, "[Remember.](#)"

Remember who calls us and who we are to serve.

2 Timothy 1:9 ...called with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose...

2 Thessalonians 1:11 ...God would count us worthy of this calling, fulfill all the good pleasure...

He counts us worthy. It talks about “faith with power.” When you have a child-like faith, then you don’t need revival, but when you have an adult-like faith, then you don’t believe that it’s possible.

2 Peter 1:10 ... give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

May God re-birth the regeneration that is needed in us.