

Sermon ~ Sunday, January 24, 2021 by Pastor Dwight Benoit

Text: I John 5: 1-5

Title: "Born Again!"

One thing, these days are revealing, is those who are "Born Again!" For too many are claiming, "I know GOD!" Few claim, "I'm an atheist" — "I don't believe in a god or divine being;" "I'm an agnostic" — "I neither believe nor disbelieve in a god or religious doctrine. But note this: people's beliefs and ideas differ! [The beliefs and ideas of the Muslims, the Buddhists, the Jews, the Hindus, the CHRISTians and so on.] The critical question is, "Who is right?" "Whose belief and idea of GOD is correct? How can we tell, if we believe in GOD, if our beliefs and concepts of GOD is accurate? How can we tell if we really believe in "The Only Living and True GOD?"

If we have been "Born of GOD", then we definitely believe in GOD. GOD would not have given HIS Divine Nature to a person who does not believe in HIM. Therefore, if we have The Divine Nature of GOD, if we have been truly "Born Again," then we believe in GOD, in The Living and True GOD. But how can we tell if we have been "Born of GOD?" I'm so glad you asked...

1. Believing JESUS is The CHRIST
2. Obeying and Keeping GOD'S Commandments
3. Conquering this World

Proof that one has been "Born Again" is this: Believing that JESUS is The CHRIST (I John 5: 1). The Title CHRIST means "MESSIAH" or "ANOINTED ONE." JESUS CHRIST is The SON of GOD anointed to BE The SAVIOR of the world. HE was anointed by GOD for a special mission, the mission of coming to earth to save man and to give man Eternal Life. The person who believes that JESUS is The Anointed One of GOD, that HE was sent into the world to save man, that person is given a "New Birth" by GOD. That person is "Born Again!" (John 3: 3-5) That person is made into "A New Creature!" (2 Corinthians 5: 17) That person is "A New Man!" (Ephesian 4: 24)

The person who is "Born Again," loves GOD. You cannot help but love GOD, for GOD did this most wonderful thing for him. Think about it, meditate on this, GOD sacrificed HIS SON to bear our sin(s) is enough to bring us to our knees, in humble adoration.

The person who loves GOD will love other believers as well. Why? Because GOD has given other believers a spiritual birth as well. They are our brothers and sisters in CHRIST. We share the same GOD; the same FATHER; the same LORD and SAVIOR; the same Rebirth; the same Divine Nature; the same Adoption. The point is that we love one another. If we have truly been "Born Again" and love GOD, then we love the whole family of GOD.

Proof that one has been "Born Again" is this: Obedience. (I John 5: 2, 3).

The person who is Born of GOD keeps GOD'S commandments. Do you really believe GOD? Yes, if you keep HIS commandments. NO, if you do not keep HIS commandments. The person who really believes GOD, who really casts himself upon GOD and relies upon GOD, does what GOD say. He depends on GOD'S WORD; he believes that GOD'S WORD works.

Therefore, he obeys GOD.

Do you really *love* **GOD**? (v. 2) Yes, if we keep **HIS commandments**. NO, if we don't not keep **HIS commandments**. If we really *love* **GOD**, really care for **HIM**, then we want to *please* **HIM**! We want to do what **HE says**. Therefore, the person who really *loves* **GOD** is the person who keeps **HIS commandments**.

Proof that one has been "**Born Again**" is this: we are overcoming this world. (1 John 4, 5)

*The person who is "**Born Again**" overcomes the world.

*The Victory that overcomes the world is our "faith."

*The person who overcomes the world is the person who believes that **JESUS CHRIST is The SON of GOD**.

Who is "**Born Again**?" It is the person who *believes* that **JESUS CHRIST is The Son of GOD**. The world is overcome by "faith." Victory is gained over the world by faith in **JESUS CHRIST**, by *believing* that **JESUS CHRIST is The SON of GOD!** (Am I repeating myself?)

This world is full of suffering, disease, accidents, corruption, hate, bitterness, immorality, destroyed families, wickedness, drugs, drunkenness, envy, murder, war, arguments, backbiters, pride, arrogance, hunger, homelessness, pain, hurt, selfishness, greed... The most fatal blow, is death. The one thing that we need is "Victory" over this world with all its corruptions and death. How can we overcome this world? By *believing* that **JESUS CHRIST is The SON of GOD!** Spiritually "**Born Again!**" A Rebirth of one's spirit! A New Life! A Renewed Soul! A Regenerated spirit! A Godly Nature! A Radical Change!

It means that **GOD** gives the *believer* Victory over all the trials and temptations of life.

It means that **GOD** gives the *believer* Victory over all the forces and difficulties of life.

It means that **GOD** gives the *believer* Victory over sin.

It means that **GOD** gives the *believer* Victory over death.

It means that **GOD** gives the *believer* Victory over judgment.

It means that **GOD** gives the *believer* Victory over fear and despair and fills him with Love, Joy and Peace.

It means that **GOD** gives the *believer* Victory over Satan and all other spiritual forces.

It means I have been "**Born Again!**"

Have you been to **JESUS** for the cleansing power? Are you washed in **The Blood of The LAMB?**

Are you fully trusting in **HIS GRACE** this hour? Are you washed in **The Blood of The LAMB?**

Are you walking daily by **The SAVIOR'S Side?** Are you washed in **The Blood of The LAMB?**

Do you rest each moment in **The Crucified?** Are you washed in **The Blood of The LAMB?**

When The Bridegroom cometh will your robes be white? Will your soul be ready for the mansion bright? Are you washed in **The Blood of The LAMB?**

Are you washed in **The Blood**, in the soul cleansing **Blood of The LAMB?**

Are your garments spotless? Are they with as snow?

Are you washed in **The Blood of The LAMB?**

www.magnoliambcbmt.org