

# BEING BORN AGAIN

Sunday, September 6, 2020 -- Ben Nistor

## 1 PETER 1:3-9

English Standard Version (ESV)

**3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4** to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, **5** who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. **6** In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, **7** so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. **8** Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, **9** obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

- 1) How can a person be **born again**?
  - A) God causes it by **his mercy** (3b)
  - B) God causes it through the **resurrection** of Jesus Christ (3d)
  
- 2) What does being born again **provide**?
  - A) It **guarantees** a **living hope** (3d)
  - B) It **seals** an **inheritance** (4)
    - Imperishable = free from **death** and **decay**
    - Undefiled = free from **uncleanness** and **impurity**
    - Unfading = free from **time**
  - C) It **secures** a future **salvation** (5)
    - Past = '**...through faith for a salvation ready**'
    - Present = '**...by God's power being guarded...**' (Luke 22:31-32)
    - Future = '**...for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time**'
  
- 3) Why do people **need** to be born again?
  - A) Because of **sin** (5,9)
    - 'salvation' = the culmination of redemptive history
  - B) Because of **suffering** (6-7)
    - 'various trials' = not just persecution, but all kinds of suffering
  
- 4) How does being born again **change** a person?
  - A) People are able to **rejoice** (3, 6, 8) despite sin and suffering
  - B) People are able to **love** (8) and **believe** in (5, 8) Jesus Christ without seeing him (8, 9)
    - '*Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed*' (John 20:29)
  
- 5) How can you **know** if you are born again?
  - A) Through **faith/trust** (5, 7, 9)
  - B) Through **worship** (3)
  - C) Through confidence you are being **guarded/kept** by God (5)
  - D) Through **proven** faith (7)