

50 POSITIONAL TRUTHS

#22: Regeneration

There are five terms in the Bible which describe the miracle of the recreation of the essence of a human being whereby he actually becomes a child of God positionally and ontologically at salvation: born again, made alive, a son of God, a new creation, and regeneration. Nothing but a divine miracle could account for the creation of a human soul, and nothing short of a miracle can account for the second great miracle of regeneration of that soul at salvation.

Consider the change. By nature all men are “sons of disobedience” (Eph. 2:2), “children of wrath” (Eph. 2:3), and “children of the devil” (1 John 3:10; Matt 13:38; 23:15; Acts 13:10). Only the new *divine* birth can produce that holy nature within a spiritually dead soul and place that person in the divine family.

While the world may see visible manifestations of this new life, it is the regenerate person himself who lives in the grand reality of this new spiritual dimension by virtue of this new divine essence. There is nothing more fundamental than our essence as human beings, therefore when that essence undergoes a total transformation by the impartation of divine life everything about us changes in the deepest levels. Note some of the changes this new life brings to the experience of every believer: capacity to love fellow believers (1 John 5:1); capacity to love the Word of God (1 Pet. 2:2); a new spiritual intellect (1 Cor. 2:14; Eph. 1:18; Col. 3:10); a new will or desire for God (Phil. 2:13; 2 Thess. 3:5; Heb. 13:21), and a glorious new love for and joy about Jesus Christ that transcends the difficulties of life (1 Pet. 1:8).

The Word of God repeatedly declares that a man must be regenerated before he can know God. These claims of the Word of God are evident in reason, conscience, and experience.

Positional truth #22: Regeneration

Titus 3:5 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,

1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

John 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name,¹³ who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

Matthew 5:45 in order that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on *the* evil and *the* good, and sends rain on *the* righteous and *the* unrighteous.

Philippians 2:14 Do all things without grumbling or disputing; ¹⁵ that you may prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world,

Actualized by Esse,

Pastor Don