 In Christ

> Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.
> — *1 John 4:7*

Book: New Testament / 1 John
Topics: rebirth, friendship, love, neighbor

Interpretation:
In 1 John, *the apostle* reminds us of the importance of love in our lives. *1 John 4:7* clearly states that we should love one another, but why is this so important? Love is one of the hallmarks of Christians and a sign of God's love for us.

Love from God

When we speak of love as a hallmark of Christians, we mean a love that goes beyond mere affection or gratitude. The love that God expects from us is a love that is given unconditionally, that expects nothing in return, and that is able to forgive even the gravest offenses. This kind of love can only come from God, for it is He who shows us how to love in this way.

Love gives us knowledge of God

1 John 4:7 also says that he who loves is born of God and knows God. That is, love brings us closer to God and allows us to know Him better. If we want to truly know God, we must love, for only then can we understand His love and mercy.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.
> — *1 John 5:4*

Book: New Testament / 1 John
Topics: rebirth, faith, God, overcoming, world

Interpretation:
1 John 5:4 is a powerful statement that all who are born of God, that is, saved by faith *in Christ Jesus*, have the ability to overcome the world. This means that although the world is fraught with many difficulties and problems, faith in God gives us victory over them. This mentioned victory has triumphed over the world because of our faith.

How can this verse help us in our lives?

1 John 5:4 reminds us that as children of God, we are called to live a victorious life and constant faith. It is easy to feel overwhelmed when we face difficult situations in life, but this verse reminds us that we can trust God to overcome any obstacles that come our way.

Through faith in God, we can overcome fear, doubt, sadness, anxiety, and all the problems that arise. Furthermore, this verse helps us realize that our victory is not achieved by our own strength, but by the power and grace of God.

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> For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.
> *— 1 Peter 1:23*

Book: New Testament / 1 Peter
Topics: rebirth, Word of God

Interpretation:
The verse in *1 Peter 1:23* speaks of the process of regeneration in the Christian life, not physically, but spiritually. The idea presented here is that we are no longer the same as we were before we met God. We are a new creation in Him.

Reborn from incorruptible seed

The Apostle *Peter* compares the process of regeneration to being born from an earthly father. But here the seed is not corruptible, but incorruptible, that is, it is *the Word of God* that lives and abides forever. Corruptible seed is that which is doomed to die, but when we are born of the Word of God, we are born to eternal life.

What does it mean that this seed of the Word of God is incorruptible? It means that it cannot be corrupted or destroyed. The Word of God is truth, and as such, it will always remain the same and eternal. No matter how much time passes, what the Word of God says will remain true.

How God's Word helps us become revitalized

God's Word is a vital tool in our journey to spiritual revival. As we read and meditate on Scripture, we receive the guidance *of the Holy Spirit* to understand God's truths. As a result, we begin to live a changed life based on God's will, not our own.

As we read and meditate on God's Word, we are confronted with our own sinful nature. We begin to see clearly our need for *a Savior*, and that is where *Jesus* enters our lives. He is the door that leads us to spiritual revival.

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> Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
>
> *— 1 Peter 1:3*

Book: New Testament / 1 Peter
Topics: rebirth, Easter, hope, Resurrection

Interpretation:
The mercy of God is a recurring theme in the Bible, highlighted in *1 Peter 1:3*. It tells of a God who, despite our condition as sinners, gives us the opportunity to be reborn and have a living hope in Him. The Apostle *Peter* reminds us in this verse that God’s mercy is the reason we have this living hope. It is not something we have earned or merited, but rather a gift from God to us.

Reborn to a living hope

In *1 Peter 1:3*, Peter introduces the idea of ??being reborn to a living hope, which is a reference to the experience of salvation through faith in *Jesus Christ*. This idea reflects the transformation that occurs in the life of a believer when we accept *Jesus as our Savior and Lord*. When we accept Jesus as our Savior, we die to the old self and are reborn to a new life in Him. This life in Christ gives us a living hope that cannot be obtained by any other means or reason. It gives us access to eternal life with Him and the promise of a full and abundant life here on earth.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ and our living hope

This verse also emphasizes the importance of the resurrection of Jesus Christ in the promise of our living hope. The resurrection is the irrefutable proof that *Jesus is the Son of God* and that His sacrifice on the cross was sufficient payment for our sins. Believing in the resurrection is fundamental to our faith because without it, our faith would be in vain. The resurrection gives believers the hope that one day we too will be resurrected and live forever with our Savior in heaven.

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> Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation.
> *— 1 Peter 2:2*

Book: New Testament / 1 Peter
Topics: rebirth, food, Salvation, Word of God

Interpretation:
The main purpose of 1 Peter is to motivate and encourage Christians who were being persecuted for their faith. *1 Peter 2:2* tells us about the importance of getting rid of everything that defiles us and seeking *the Word of God* to grow in our salvation.

In this verse, *Peter* compares spiritual milk to the breast milk that a newborn receives. Just as breast milk is necessary for the physical growth and development of a newborn, spiritual milk is necessary for the spiritual growth and development of every believer.

The importance of pure spiritual milk

It is important to note that spiritual milk must be *“unadulterated.”* This means that it must be pure and not mixed with false teachings or human philosophies. The Word of God is our source of nourishment, and it is vital that we nourish ourselves and grow properly in our faith.

We must be careful with the messages we receive through the media or from other people, as they can distort the truth of God’s Word and cause us to believe things that are not true. Therefore, it is important that we learn to discern what is true and what is false.

Growing in salvation

The main purpose of spiritual milk is for us to grow unto salvation. This means that we must be in a constant spiritual growth and progression, always striving to draw closer to God and live according to His will.

Growing in salvation does not mean that we become perfect overnight. Rather, it is an ongoing process that requires time, effort, and consistency. We must be willing to submit to the teachings of God’s Word and allow *His Holy Spirit* to guide and transform us.

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> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!
> *— 2 Corinthians 5:17*

Book: New Testament / 2 Corinthians
Topics: rebirth, creation, Jesus

Interpretation:
2 Corinthians 5:17 is one of the most quoted and popular verses in the Bible. It is a powerful verse that reminds us of the transformation and renewal of our hearts when we receive *Jesus* into our lives.

What does “new creation” mean?

“New creation” refers to the complete transformation that occurs in the life of a believer when they join *Christ*. It is a profound and irreversible effect in which the old self is erased and a new self is born *in Christ*. In this new state, love, peace, patience, kindness, faith, humility, and self-control are evident

and present in a life filled with the love of God. Everything we were before meeting Christ is erased—the bad, the ugly, the shortcomings, and the destructive things we may have encountered.

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> Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”
>
> *— John 3:3*

Book: New Testament / John
Topics: rebirth, Kingdom, understanding

Interpretation:
In this verse, *Jesus* is talking to *Nicodemus*, a Pharisee and member of the Sanhedrin. Nicodemus recognizes Jesus as a divine teacher and comes to Him with questions. In response, Jesus tells him that one must be born again to see the *kingdom of God*.

This is the concept of being *“born again.”* Jesus is talking about the spiritual rebirth that occurs when someone becomes a follower of Christ. It is a total transformation that changes your heart, mind, and soul.

What does it mean to be born again?

Being born again means leaving our old life of sin behind and starting a new life in Christ. It is admitting that we are sinners and that we need salvation. It is believing in Jesus as our Savior and following His teachings.

Most people think of baptism when they hear the phrase *“born again.”* While baptism is an important symbol of spiritual rebirth, it is not rebirth in itself. Spiritual rebirth occurs in your heart when you accept Christ as your Savior.

Why is it important to be born again?

It is important because without spiritual rebirth we cannot enter the kingdom of God. As Jesus said in *John 3:5, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit.”* The water in this verse refers to baptism, which is also a symbol of spiritual rebirth.

Being born again is also important because it changes our lives. When we are born again, we receive the Holy Spirit, who gives us the power to live a holy life that is obedient to God.

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> Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit.”
>
> *— John 3:5*

Book: New Testament / John
Topics: rebirth, baptism, Kingdom, Spirit

Interpretation:
Before delving into the meaning of the verse in question, it is important to understand the context in which it is spoken. In this chapter, *Nicodemus*, a Pharisee and Jewish leader, visits *Jesus* at night to ask him questions about eternal life and the *Kingdom of God*. Confused, Nicodemus asks how he can be “born again” if he is already an adult.

This verse has been interpreted differently by different Christian denominations. However, most agree that *“born of water”* refers to baptism, and *“born of the Spirit”* refers to spiritual rebirth.

In other words, to enter the *Kingdom of God*, a person must be baptized and make an internal change in his heart.

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> Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.
>
> *— John 3:6*

Book: New Testament / John
Topics: rebirth, Spirit

Interpretation:
John 3:6 is an important reminder that we humans have two parts: flesh and spirit. We are born with a fleshly nature that seeks to satisfy our physical desires and needs. But we also have a spirit that seeks to connect with the divine and find purpose and meaning in life.

One of the main ideas in this verse is that we are more than just our physical body. If we focus only on our physical needs, we can miss out on the true richness of life. On the other hand, if we focus only on the spiritual, we can miss out on our emotional and physical needs, which are equally important.

Flesh gives birth to flesh

It is important to note that the term *"flesh"* does not only refer to our physical body. It also refers to our earthly nature, which is focused on physical needs and desires. This part of us can be selfish and driven by fear and the desire to survive.

The flesh is more susceptible to temptations and fleeting pleasures than to what is truly important and lasting. If we follow only our physical needs, we risk falling into the trap of addiction and materialism.

The Spirit gives birth to spirit

Spirit refers to our divine nature, which seeks to connect with the transcendent and have a purpose beyond our physical needs and desires. This part of us is motivated by kindness, love, and wisdom. This is where we find peace, joy, and truth.

Ultimately, *John 3:6* means that our spiritual nature is what connects us to the divine and gives us the ability to love, learn, and grow as humans. But we also need to care for and nourish our physical part in order to experience life fully and completely.

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> Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.
> — *Philippians 1:6*

Book: New Testament / Philippians
Topics: rebirth, Jesus, Second coming

Interpretation:
In Philippians we find many valuable instructions for our Christian lives. One of the most significant verses is *Philippians 1:6*. This verse gives us great hope, faith, and confidence. It gives us a promise from God that if we begin a good work, He will bring it to completion. Whether it is working on ourselves, our families, our community, or our ministry, God is committed to perfecting and finishing what he has begun.

What does he mean?

This verse tells us that God has begun a good work in us. When we receive *Jesus Christ*, God justifies and sanctifies us. He gives us new life and makes us *His children*. From that moment on, a work begins in us, and we can trust that He will bring it to completion.

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> He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.
> *— Titus 3:5*

Book: New Testament / Titus
Topics: rebirth, baptism, Holy Spirit, mercy, righteousness, Salvation

Interpretation:
Titus 3:5 tells us that salvation is not achieved by works of righteousness that we do. That is, we cannot earn salvation through our own efforts or merits. Instead, *salvation is given to us by the grace of God*.

This is a transformative and liberating message for believers because we are not under constant pressure to do enough good works to achieve salvation. Instead, we can trust in God's grace and mercy to grant us salvation.

There are two important terms in this verse that we should consider. *The first is the washing of regeneration*. This refers to the cleansing that occurs in us as a result of salvation. *The second is renewal in the Holy Spirit*. This term refers to the inner transformation that occurs in us as a result of salvation.

Regeneration and renewal are processes that occur simultaneously when we are saved. We cannot experience one without the other. When we are saved, our hearts are cleansed from all impurity and our spirits are renewed by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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