



You Must be Born Again! Part 2

The phrase **born again** is used in three places in the New Testament; twice in John Chapter 3 and the other in 1st Peter.

Today, the “You Must be Born Again” phrase is interpreted as:

1. You must **get saved.**
2. Give your heart to Jesus.
3. Make a decision for Christ.

But what did Yeshua mean and how should we interpret this conversation in the context in which it is given?

The Church world has taken a conversation Yeshua had with a Pharisee at night and built powerhouse ministries teaching a gospel message of salvation.

Much has been said about being born again and what it means. Billy Graham, and the like, have built multimillion dollar ministries from John 3:16.

But what does John 3:16 really teach us in the context in which it is given?

Jn 3:1 There was a man of the **Pharisees**, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:

Jn 3:2 The same came to Yeshua by night, and said unto him, **Rabbi, we** know that thou art a teacher come from YeHoVaH: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except **G-**be with him.

Jn 3:1 **There was a man** of the **Pharisees**, named Nicodemus, a **ruler** of the Jews:

We learned several things about Nicodemus:

1. He was searching for Truth.
2. He was a Pharisee.
3. He was a ruler of the Jews.

Jn 3:2 The same came to Yeshua by night, and said unto him, **Rabbi**, **we** know that thou art a **teacher** come from YeHoVaH: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except YeHoVaH be with him.

Jn 3:3 Yeshua answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man **be born again**, he cannot see the kingdom of YeHoVaH.

Jn 3:4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

Jn 3:5 Yeshua answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit**, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

Jn 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Jn 3:7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

Jn 3:8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

Jn 3:9 Nicodemus answered and said unto him, **How can these things be?**

Nicodemus asked a question.

Yeshua responds with a question.

Jn 3:10 Yeshua answered and said unto him, **Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?**

Here is where the conversation gets interesting. Yeshua's question implies Nicodemus should have known what He was saying about this born-again process.

If Yeshua expected Nicodemus to know this, why?

How would Nicodemus know what Yeshua is talking about if he is hearing this for the very first time? Nicodemus is a teacher/ruler/Pharisee of Israel.

Jn 3:10 Yeshua answered and said unto him, **Art thou a master (teacher) of Israel, and knowest not these things**

Nicodemus is a teacher, but He does not know about being born again although Yeshua implied that he should have known these things. How?

If Nicodemus does not know these things, then what is he teaching the people of Israel? The traditions of the elders.

How did Peter interpret the **You Must be Born Again** phrase?

1st Peter 1:1-25

1Pe 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,

^{1Pe 1:2} Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

^{1Pe 1:3} Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath **begotten us again** unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

This statement Peter makes, “**begotten us again**”, is powerful.

Yeshua was the **Only Begotten** at the first and then He is referred to as the **First Begotten** after the Resurrection. But, according to the Almighty, He was the **First Begotten** from the beginning.

^{Heb 1:6} And again, when he bringeth in the **first begotten** into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him.

^{Rev 1:5} And from Jesus Christ, *who is* the faithful witness, *and* the **first begotten** of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

^{1Pe 1:4} To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

^{1Pe 1:5} Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

^{1Pe 1:6} Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:

^{1Pe 1:7} That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

^{1Pe 1:8} Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see *him* not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:

^{1Pe 1:9} Receiving the end of your faith, *even* the salvation of your souls.

^{1Pe 1:10} Of which salvation **the prophets have inquired** and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace *that should come* unto you:

^{1Pe 1:11} Searching what, or what manner of time the **Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify**, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

^{1Pe 1:12} Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.

^{1Pe 1:13} Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

^{1Pe 1:14} As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:

^{1Pe 1:15} **But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;**

^{1Pe 1:16} **Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.**

Peter quotes directly from the Torah/Law.

^{Lev 11:44} For I am the LORD your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy: neither shall ye defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Lev 11:45 For I *am the LORD that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I am holy.*

Lev 19:2 Speak unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say unto them, Ye shall be holy: for I the LORD your God *am holy.*

Lev 20:7 Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: for I *am the LORD your God.*

Lev 20:8 And ye shall keep my statutes, and do them: I *am the LORD which sanctify you.*

1Pe 1:17 And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning *here* in fear:

1Pe 1:18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation *received* by tradition from your fathers;

1Pe 1:19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

1Pe 1:20 Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,

1Pe 1:21 Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.

1Pe 1:22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, *see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:*

1Pe 1:23 **Being born again**, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, **by the word of God**, which liveth and abideth for ever.

Peter uses a direct quote from the Prophet Isaiah found in Isaiah 40.

1Pe 1:24 For all flesh *is* as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

1Pe 1:25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

Isa 40:5 And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see *it* together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken *it*.

Isa 40:6 The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh *is* grass, and all the goodliness thereof *is* as the flower of the field:

Isa 40:7 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people *is* grass.

Isa 40:8 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the **word of our God** shall stand for ever.

Isa 40:9 O Zion, that bringest **good tidings**, get thee up into the high mountain; O **Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings**, lift up thy voice with strength; lift *it* up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!

The Prophet Isaiah prophesied that the Law and The Gospel had to go forth from Jerusalem.

- The Law and the Gospel shall go forth from Jerusalem.
- Yeshua had to die in Jerusalem.
- The Great Commission was given in Jerusalem.
- The Holy Spirit was given in Jerusalem.
- The first Born Again Saints were born again in Jerusalem.
- The message was to be preached from Jerusalem, to Judea, to Samaria, and to the uttermost parts of the world.

Isa 2:3 And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: **for out of Zion shall go forth the law**, and the **word of the LORD from Jerusalem**.

James, the Brother of Yeshua, took it a step further.

Jas 1:19 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:

Jas 1:20 For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

Jas 1:21 Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness **the engrafted word**, which is able to **save your souls**.

Jas 1:22 **But be ye doers of the word**, and **not hearers only**, deceiving your own selves.

Jas 1:23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:

Jas 1:24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

Jas 1:25 But whoso looketh into the **perfect law of liberty**, and continueth *therein*, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, **this man shall be blessed** in his deed.

John, the writer of the Book of Revelation, puts it this way.

Rev 12:17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which **keep the commandments of God, (Law)** and have the **testimony of Jesus Christ. (Gospel)**

Rev 14:12 Here is the patience of **the saints**: here *are they that* **keep the commandments of God, (Law)** and **the faith of Jesus. (Gospel)**

Examples from the Bible

Ac 2:41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added *unto them about three thousand souls*.

Ac 4:4 Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.

Ac 10:34 Then Peter opened *his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons*:

Ac 10:35 But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

Ac 10:36 **The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)**

Ac 10:37 **That word**, *I say, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached;*

Ac 7:38 This is he, **that was in the church in the wilderness** with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and *with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us:*

Heb 3:7 Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, Today if ye will hear his voice,

Heb 3:8 Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness:

Heb 3:9 When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years.

Heb 3:10 Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do always err in *their heart; and they have not known my ways.*

Heb 3:11 So I swear in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.)

Heb 3:12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

Heb 3:13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called Today; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

Heb 3:14 For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end;

Heb 3:15 While it is said, Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.

Heb 3:16 For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses.

Heb 3:17 But with whom was he grieved forty years? *was it not with them that had sinned, whose carcasses fell in the wilderness?*

Heb 3:18 And to whom swore he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not?

Heb 3:19 So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

Heb 4:1 Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left *us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.*

Heb 4:2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard *it.*

Heb 4:3 For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

Heb 4:4 For he spake in a certain place of the seventh *day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works.*