

Salvation

What Does It Mean To Be Born Again, And How Does Salvation Affect My Relationship To God?

Receiving Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour is the most important decision you will ever make in life. An eternity with God in heaven as opposed to an eternity in hell apart from him is of infinitely more value than anything during this life. It is a simple decision of childlike faith, yet carries profound significance far beyond our natural understanding. The purpose of this lesson is to briefly explain what took place in your life when you received Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour, and how that decision has affected your entire life.

- I All people on earth live in one of two spiritual families.
 - B The earthly family is comprised of naturally born sinners.
 - 1 You were born into this world as a sinner without any relationship with God.
Romans 3:10-12; Ephesians 2:12
 - 2 You entered this family naturally through your physical father, who is ultimately a descendant of Adam. The descendants of Adam are all born in the image and likeness of a fallen sinner.
Genesis 5:3
 - 3 You inherited a sinful nature from your father Adam. It was not your fault you were born with a sin nature, but it is every man's responsibility to do something about it. By trusting Jesus Christ to save you, you have accessed the only solution to the problem of your sin nature.
Romans 5:12
 - 4 The Bible is clear that as a result of your sin, you are sentenced to die.
Romans 6:23: *"For the wages of sin is death..."*
I Corinthians 15:22: *"...in Adam all die..."*

As it is written,
There is none
righteous, no, not
one:
Romans 3:10

Wherefore, as by
one man sin entered
into the world, and
death by sin; and so
death passed upon
all men, for that all
have sinned:
Romans 5:12

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

B God's family:

- 1 God's family is entered by birth; but it is a spiritual birth by your Heavenly Father. This new birth puts you into God's family in the same way your physical birth put you into your father's family. By trusting Jesus Christ as your Saviour, you became a son of God by birth. This is what the term "born again" means.

John 3:3-7, I Peter 1:23

- 2 The new birth is described in John 1:12-13:

"But as many as received him..."

Your decision to trust Jesus Christ as your Saviour

"To them gave he power to become the sons of God..."

Your entrance into God's family

"Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man..."

It is not a physical birth

But of God."

It is a spiritual birth

- 3 As a result of your new birth, you have inherited God's divine nature, just as you inherited your human nature from your father. You now possess eternal life; you are not waiting for it sometime in the future. Your spiritual life is mentioned in the PRESENT tense in all of these verses.

John 6:47: *"...He that believeth on me hath everlasting life."*

John 3:36: *"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life."*

I John 5:12: *"He that hath the Son hath life..."*

II Being in God's family separates you from the devil's family.

- A Your body is now the temple of the Holy Spirit. God's Holy Spirit lives inside you.

I Corinthians 6:19-20

- B Your new life is perfectly summarized in the following verses:

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ..."

II Corinthians 5:17-18

- C Because you now have a new life in Jesus Christ, the Bible commands you to maintain a difference between yourself and the lost.
II Corinthians 6:14-18

III Being in God's family has given you a new relationship with God.

- A God is your Father, and you are his child.
I John 2:1, Ephesians 5:1
- B Now that you are saved, God no longer deals with you as a sinner, but as his son.
- C Your relationship with God is pictured by the earthly relationship between a father and his child. The Bible shows us many ways that God treats his children. A good father will do his best to fulfill these things for his children, and when he does, it is a reflection of your Heavenly Father's care for you. Where earthly fathers fail, God steps in.
- 1 A good father helps his child.
Psalm 46:1
 - 2 A good father feeds his child.
Matthew 4:4
 - 3 A good father protects his child.
Matthew 18:6
 - 4 A good father guides and teaches his child.
John 14:26
 - 5 A good father has a plan for his child.
Romans 8:28-30
 - 6 A good father provides for his child.
Philippians 4:19
 - 7 A good father will not discourage his child.
Colossians 3:21
 - 8 A good father disciplines his child.
Hebrews 12:5-11
 - 9 A good father loves and cares for his child.
I Peter 5:7

*Be ye therefore
followers of God, as
dear children;
Ephesians 5:1*

*If ye then, being evil,
know how to give
good gifts unto your
children, how much
more shall your
Father which is in
heaven give good
things to them that
ask him?*
Matthew 7:11

THE KEY POINT OF THIS LESSON:

A good father will NEVER do anything to purposely hurt his child. He will only do those things which will help his child grow and mature. Your Heavenly Father operates in the same way, only his ways are perfect. Unlike earthly fathers who often err, God never makes a mistake in his dealings with his children.

Matthew 7:11

Basic questions you may be asking:

Will I sin after I am saved?

Yes. When you got saved, your old nature did not change, and will still draw you into sin as long as you are alive.

Romans 7:18-25, James 1:14

How does my sin affect my relationship with my Heavenly Father?

God will not kick you out of his family, but he will discipline you as his child. The nature of your relationship with your Father will not change, but the quality of it will.

Hebrews 12:5-11

What should I do when I sin?

Confess it to God, and trust the blood of Jesus Christ to cleanse you. Repent (turn away from the sin), and ask God for the power to help you stop committing that sin.

1 John 1:6-10, Proverbs 28:13

Do you have any other questions about this subject?



