

WHEN ARE WE BORN AGAIN?

This study is about the difference between being begotten and being born again. It also uses Strong's Concordance to show the original Greek translation into English. We start out by showing scriptures that tell us that we deceive ourselves if we deny we are sinners.

Then we read that if one is "born" of God he cannot sin". Then we read where IF we do sin Jesus is our advocate (or high Priest), and that he that is "begotten" of God keeps away from Satan by being protected (by our advocate). Do these scriptures contradict each other?

1Jo 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1Jo 3:9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

1Jo 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

John uses the word "if" showing we believers can sin, maybe intentional, maybe not.

1Jo 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

1Jo 3:5 And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.

1Jo 3:8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

1Jn5:18 ¶ We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is BEGOTTEN of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.

1Jo 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be BORN again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

(Note: nothing is said about going to heaven). Nicodemus asks the question:

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?

5 Jesus 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.

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

Jesus explained to Nicodemus that humans are flesh (not spirit) but when one is "born again" he will be like the wind, heard but not seen. And he must be born of "water and of spirit" to enter into the kingdom of God. "so is every one that is born of the Spirit."

Here again is a physical type pointing to the spiritual birth. Every mother that has given birth knows about her baby being born of water, when her water bag is released before the baby is born. This is just one type of baptism.

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

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.

Jesus says when we are “born again” we will become invisible, and just as the wind, will show our spiritual power.

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9 Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be?

10 Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?

11 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness.

12 If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?

Jesus often used the physical to make a spiritual point. Until that time he was referred to as being begotten. Before a child is born he is conceived or begotten. He is not considered to be born until he has grown enough to appear as a developed, born child. Is it not the same in a spirit birth?

Joh 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we held his glory, the glory as of the only BEGOTTEN of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Joh 1:18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only BEGOTTEN Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared (introduced) him.

Joh 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only BEGOTTEN Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Until this time Abraham, Jacob, Moses, David, or any other person was not yet BEGOTTEN or BORN AGAIN. Even the flesh body of Jesus was not “born again” until his resurrection. The physical, a type of the spiritual, shows an unborn baby is always BEGOTTEN BEFORE he/or she, is BORN.

Joh 3:18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the ONLY BEGOTTEN SON of God.

Ac 13:33 God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, thou art my Son, THIS DAY HAVE I BEGOTTEN THEE.

Even before the flesh body was fully developed (unborn) God called it His son.

1Co 4:15 For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.

Phm 1:10 I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds:

Heb 1:5 For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?

Paul used the same term “BEGOTTEN” about those he had lead to God as believers. We need to carefully listen to these words: This day I have “begotten” a son. By the power of God’s Spirit He planted a human seed into the body of Mary to beget a body of flesh that He would guide, by His spirit, into a sinless son.

Lu 1:35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the

power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that HOLY THING which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

Notice Jesus was born of a human woman. God would use this first son to introduce Himself. He, the Father, would make Jesus a high priest after his resurrection. At that time Jesus would become the "firstborn" of many by his resurrection. Before that Jesus was only "begotten". If Jesus was not born again until AFTER he was resurrected from the dead, can we be "born again" any differently?

Rom8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Col 1:18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the FIRST BORN FROM THE DEAD; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

Heb 5:5 So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee.

Heb 11:17 By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,

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,

1Jo 4:9 In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.

1Jo 5:1 Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born (should be begotten) of God: and every one that loveth him that BEGAT loveth him also that is BEGOTTEN of him.

We can know this word 'born' is a mistranslation because it does not agree with the many other opposite scriptures.

1Jo 5:18 We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.

John says "whosoever is born of God sinneth not;" but he that is "begotten" of God keepeth himself, (resists Satan). Notice when we are born of God we can not sin. Can we not still sin at present? Have we been "born again" now? What person, living now, can not sin? Yes, we can receive forgiveness, if we repent, but we have still sinned if we have disobeyed just one of God's commandments.

Re 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,

Below are definitions of the same original Greek words translated into English.

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1080 gennaw gennao ghen-nah'-o

from a variation of 1085; TDNT-1:665,114; v

AV-begat 49, be born 39, bear 2, gender 2, bring forth 1, be delivered 1, misc 3; 97

1) of men who fathered children
to be born
to be begotten
of women giving birth to children

2) metaph.
to engender, cause to arise, excite
of God making Christ his son

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3439 monogenhv monogenes mon-og-en-ace'
from 3441 and 1096; TDNT-4:737,606; adj

AV-only begotten 6, only 2, only child 1; 9

1) single of its kind, only
used of only sons or daughters (viewed in relation to their parents)
used of Christ, denotes the only begotten son

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Why do we need to know the difference of being "begotten" or being "born again?" Satan would love to convince everyone that one can now be born again, and because we are born again, we can sin and it will not be held against us. Or better yet, it is impossible for us to sin because Jesus has paid the penalty for our sins when we became "born again". In any case, it makes any one who thinks of himself as being born again also believes in once saved always saved and relieves himself from having to keep God's laws. Satan is very cunning and deceptive, so is human nature.

1Jo 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1Jo 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

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