

ARE BEING BORN AGAIN AND BEING A NEW CREATURE DIFFERENT THINGS?

As I mentioned in the last article that posted to this blog, I was commenting to Yahweh Yeshua how I hadn't seen a new heresy arising for the period of a week or two. I thought that perhaps the great falling away had halted, or that it was taking a hiatus, but boy was I wrong. Just a day or two after that musing in communion with Yeshua I received an answer in the way of two new oddball thoughts. I am truly convinced that when you take someone who has too much time on his or her hands and you mix in a little gnosis and a little bit of pride you have the perfect mixture for heretical delusional reprobate activity. This latest one is a real hoot, the notion that being Born Again is completely different from being the "New Creature," that Rabbi Paul talked about. It is even driven more home by the unfounded notion that being "Born Again," is for people of the Old Covenant and "New Creature," is a feature of Grace and available only to believer's post-crucifixion.

Here is the notion as it was put forward in the post of Facebook:

TODAY THE SAVED ARE NOT "BORN AGAIN"

FACT: Our Apostle Paul never once uses the term "born again."

Most Christians say they are BORN AGAIN Christians (yeah, I even have that on the header of my FB wall, because that's what I once believed too; probably time to change that.). You might find the conversation below between some KJVgrace believers interesting.

THE TERM "BORN AGAIN" IS NOT CORRECT TODAY!!!

Robin Andres Wood asks ...

Can you tell me why??

Can you tell me WHO WILL BE BORN AGAIN?

Can you tell me WHEN this happens?

Can you tell me what we ARE TODAY?

Bernie Hance wrote ... I will take a stab at the WHY

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

(the pronouns in the verse are CRITICAL, this is why the King James Bible is SO important)

THEE is a 2nd person pronoun in the SINGULAR form.

The “I” in the verse is Jesus.

So who is Jesus speaking to?

Nicodemus right?

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

*So, Jesus says, “marvel not that ***I*** said unto THEE (Nicodemus)*

So the THEE is Nicodemus.

But then we have the 2 person pronoun YE

YE and THEE are different, they are even SPELLED different. Things that are DIFFERENT are NOT the same. right?

YE is a 2nd person pronoun in the PLURAL form.

*So, Jesus says to Nic, “marvel not I said unto THEE, *****YE***** (plural more than one) must be born again.*

The YE would include Nicodemus, but it also includes the ENTIRE GROUP.

So Nicodemus and the “entire group” must be BORN AGAIN.

Well WHO is the “entire group”?

Who did Jesus say he came to minister to?

Matthew 15:24 But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the HOUSE OF ISRAEL

Romans 15:8 Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers:

John 1:11 He came unto HIS OWN and HIS OWN received him not.

Well if Jesus told his disciples that he came ONLY TO THE LOST SHEEP OF THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL.

If Paul says Jesus Christ was a MINISTER TO THE CIRCUMCISION. and Israel is the CIRCUMCISION. Then it doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure it out that the HIS OWN of John 1:11 and the YE of John 3:7 is ISRAEL.

So, we can PROVE this to be 100% TRUE teaching, because ISRAEL was the one that was "BORN" the FIRST TIME.

The verse says "born AGAIN" leading to a time when they were BORN a first time you see?

So we go back to Exodus 4:

Exodus 4:22 And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD, Israel is my son, even my firstborn:

Israel as a NATION went down into Egypt a GREW into a MIGHTY NATION. God wanted this nation that he created to be freed from Pharaoh, so this is a beginning passage, into what will eventually be the exit out of Egypt, thru the Red Sea. This is when Israel was BORN OF GOD the 1ST TIME.

We know the Law was given to them, and per the Law there were some COMMANDMENTS they must keep and do, if they don't they would be chastened by the Lord.

PER THE LAW:

Deuteronomy 28:1 And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:

Deuteronomy 28:2 And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.

HOWEVER if they didn't keep the law and or broke his covenants (which they did) then they had to repent.

Leviticus 26:40 If they shall confess their iniquity, and the iniquity of their fathers, with their trespass which they trespassed against me, and that also they have walked contrary unto me;

Leviticus 26:41 And that I also have walked contrary unto them, and have brought them into the land of their enemies; if then their uncircumcised hearts be humbled, and they then accept of the punishment of their iniquity:

Leviticus 26:42 Then will I remember my covenant with Jacob, and also my covenant with Isaac, and also my covenant with Abraham will I remember; and I will remember the land.

This is the whole purpose of John the Baptist coming on the scene getting Israel to CONFESS HER SINS see Matt 3:6.

Israel CANNOT keep the LAW. NOBODY CAN. So in order to be able to KEEP the LAW, they MUST BE "BORN AGAIN"

CAPS – not to shout but to show emphasis to what I am saying.

Israel role in the Kingdom, once they are 'born again' is to be this:

Exodus 19:6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

Rhonda Russell wrote ... You will notice that it's typically the same crowd that says we are "sheep" today. NO we are not, we are the BODY of Christ Jesus who is the head of all things. We are not lost and wandering sheep. We are complete in him.

Pam Helms wrote ... We are not "born again", we are "created in Christ Jesus".

Mary Richardson Greer wrote ... when we tell people that they look at us like we are insane... OH well..

Robin Andres Wood wrote ... WE ARE NOT BORN AGAIN!!!!!!! LOL

Rhonda Russell wrote ... So true Mary lol ... I really don't understand why "a NEW creature" is so difficult to understand.

Christine Angel wrote ... We are made a part of something which we were NOT a part of previously.

Christine Angel wrote ... Taken OUT of Adam and placed INTO Christ.

Pamela Sue Cellar wrote ... you are right, Israel was born when God brought them out of Egypt, they must be born again

Christine Angel wrote ... The Lord was speaking to Israel when He said they must be BORN AGAIN. "Churchianity" has put its own spin on it and made it to mean you must have a spiritual birthday along with a natural one. That isn't how the Scripture is used or to whom it was addressed. Israel was born once, and thus the term to be born AGAIN would make sense to them. We aren't born again as a Nation. We, as individuals, are made into a NEW CREATION...the church which is His BODY.

Robin Andres Wood wrote ...Amen Christine!

Gregory Allen wrote ... We are new creatures in Him. ID with Christ.

Basically, this is NAR theology. It is clearly written to make a clear separation between Jews and Christians. It is an attempt to spiritualize a scripture that has both literal and spiritual connotations. In doing this those who hold to NAR theology try to write off Physical Israel as being lost forever and that the Church replaces Israel by again spiritualizing scripture to write off the literal.

Let me ask you, the reader a question. If Yeshua said that men have to be born again to enter into the Kingdom of heaven, and he meant the Jews only, wouldn't he have said so? No, he says if a "man" wants to enter into heaven, he must be born again. Yeshua goes on to explain that born again is defined as a man born of water (natural birth) then being reborn in the Spirit. By Spirit, he is talking about the Ruach Ha Kodesh, the Holy Spirit. Let's look at the text:

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.*

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.*

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? John 3:5-12

I agree with the person that said that there is a difference between “thee” and “Ye.” The Greek word for “Thee” is σοί *soi* and it means solely “you.” The Greek word for “Ye” is ὑμᾶς *hymas* and it means “you” also, but is second person plural noun. But like all things, we have to look at context. *Hymas* could mean the group of Pharisees, or it could mean the Jewish people in general. However, we have to go to the prior passage that states:

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.

The Greek word for “a man” is τις *tis* and it is defined as “a certain one.” It is a enclitic indefinite pronoun. This sort of pronoun serves modestly to qualify the measure of things even though that is thought to be ample or large. A good example would be to say the word “man” to denote “mankind.” In the sentence, “Today we are going to start our study of the history of man,” doesn’t mean a specific man, but of all of human civilization. So thus, it could be rendered thus:

Unless a member of mankind is born of water and born of Spirit (Holy Spirit), he (singular) cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

So Yeshua is offering salvation all of mankind, but He is making it a personal decision that all men must accept individually. It is NOT any race, creed or color of mankind, but all of mankind. Note also that Yeshua is saying that being Born Again is being Born of The Holy Spirit. He is saying that the nature of a man who is Born again is from the natural man to the supernatural man. Being born again is becoming a New Creature. Nicodemus was thinking of physical birth only, but Yeshua said that, “No, a Spiritual Birth is necessary.

The word for “born” in all of these passages is γεννάω *gennaō* which has both literal and metaphorical meanings, fitting it perfectly into what Yeshua was telling Nicodemus.

- Literal Birth – being born of water, through the breaking of the mother’s amniotic sac and birth through the birth canal. Caesarian births (named after Julius Caesar) were rarely if ever done, and definitely not for those of lower status.
- Metaphorically: Spiritual Birth, of God making men his sons through faith in Christ’s work

Interestingly, the Greek phrase for ‘Born Again,’ (γεννάω *gennaō* – ἄνωθεν *anōthen*) means born from a higher place, or of the things of Elohim. It is a special birth, a new birth, a “Spiritual Birth.”

So now, let’s look at the scriptures that say that a new creature, or new creation occurs when a person comes to Yeshua through faith:

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature. Galatians 6:15

For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again. Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more. Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 2 Corinthians 5:14-17

The words in the Greek for “New Creature,” in both of the scriptures above are:

*new: καινός *kainos**

- *as respects form: recently made, fresh, recent, unused, unworn*
- *as respects substance: of a new kind, unprecedented, novel, uncommon, unheard of*

*Creature: κτίσις *ktisis**

- *creation i.e. thing created*
- *of individual things, beings, a creature, a creation*
- *anything created*

- *after a rabbinical usage (by which a man converted from idolatry to Judaism was called)*
- *the sum or aggregate of things created*

The old creation that believers were, and we in a sense still are because we live in corruptible vessels were born of water (natural birth). The new creature is a second birth, a spiritual birth that happens when one has faith in Yeshua Ha Mashiach (Jesus Christ). When Yeshua was talking to Nicodemus, he was offering him a second birth (born again); he was telling Nicodemus that he needed to have a spiritual rebirth, that he needed to become a new creature. We're told flesh and blood cannot enter heaven:

There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy; the second man is the Lord from heaven. As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. 1 Corinthians 15:40-54

In essence, speaking from common terms, we're all like computers. We've all received new software but we're waiting for a hardware change. The software that is operating the hardware can only be as effective as the hardware will let it be. Our earthly vessels inhibit our "new creature," from operating as it is intended to operate, so we groan for our new bodies so that everything can work right.

Some might argue that our DNA has been changed, seeing that we are new creatures, and that might be in a sense true, however the good DNA is hindered by the junk DNA that exists alongside it, the corruptible inhibits the incorruptible. One third of us walks in the Spiritual Realm, that is our spirit. One third lives in this world, that is our flesh. The last third, our mind is in a constant battle between the two. That is why we see so many pleas in scripture to renew the mind so that we no longer operate under the mind of our “old man,” but by the mind of Mashiach.

So yes, being born again is being the same as becoming a new creature. It is the same for Jew and Gentile, scripture points that out. Yeshua himself pointed out that being born again is becoming a new creature because the natural is superseded by the person born of the Ruach Ha Kodesh (Holy Spirit). The New Creature, that was born anew when we came to faith in Mashiach will be completed at the resurrection when the software will get that hardware upgrade and all will function in sync.

To even state that there is a different experience for Jews than there is for Gentiles is absurd because of what would seem to many people to be the redundant preaching by Paul and others that Yahweh sees no difference between Jew and Gentile and offers the same regeneration to both. In this day and age when deception runs rampant, to suggest that there is a different way to regeneration between the two suggests that Jews are born with a sin nature and Gentiles that have accepted Yeshua are somehow born without a sin nature. If all have to come to Yeshua to be saved, then the salvation plan has to be the same. Yahweh is no respecter of men that He would make the process different. To suggest that there is a difference is a doctrine of demons, which we're promised would be prevalent during the last days:

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; 1 Timothy 4:1

Yes, Paul does speak about being Born Again, he just used different terminology; he uses the term “new creation” in its stead. It is no different than Jews referring to the Anointed One as Messiah and Gentiles using the term Christ, or Jews calling Him Yeshua while Gentiles use a variety of terms, such as Jesus or Gesu. Some refer to the atmosphere as the sky while others refer to it as the heavens.

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. 1 Corinthians 2:14

But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. Romans 8:9

But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. Romans 8:11

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. Romans 8:14

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: Romans 8:16

For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. 1 Corinthians 12:13

But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord. 2 Corinthians 3:18

For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: 1 Peter 3:18

And the ultimate trump card of scriptures says:

Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit. Ephesians 2:11-22

I now rest my case; scripture having proven the truth that Born Again occurs to produce the New Creature. If anyone has an argument, go and argue with Yahweh about it. After all, it's His Scripture that you're ignorant about. Ask Him to reveal the truth to you. Amen and Amen.