



# REGENERATION







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*Being 'Born Again':  
What it means  
and  
why it's necessary*



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CHRISTIAN  
**HERITAGE**





© Christian Focus Publications 2003

ISBN 1-85792-741-9  
ISBN 978-1-85792-741-2

Published in 2003,  
Reprinted 2007  
in the  
Christian Heritage Imprint  
by  
Christian Focus Publications Ltd.,  
Geanies House, Fearn, Ross-shire,  
IV20 1TW, Scotland, UK.



[www.christianfocus.com](http://www.christianfocus.com)

Cover design by Alister MacInnes

Printed and bound by  
Nørhaven Paperback A/S, Denmark

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‘Sacraments must be used holily, and yet not to have the office of Christ added to them. Solely it is His office to sanctify and purge from sin. I take nothing from the sacraments, but honour them in all things, as they are worthy; howbeit not too much’

(Bishop Hooper, Reformer and Martyr, 1550).





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### Reader

I wish to speak to you about regeneration, or being born again.

The subject is a most important one at any time. Those words of our Lord Jesus Christ to Nicodemus are very solemn, 'Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God' (John 3:3). The world has gone through many changes since those words were spoken. Eighteen hundred years have passed away. Empires and kingdoms have risen and fallen. Great men and wise men have lived, laboured, written and died. But there stands the rule of the Lord Jesus unaltered and unchanged, and there it will stand, till heaven and earth shall pass away - 'Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.'

But the subject is one which is doubly important in the present day. Things have happened which have drawn special attention to it. Men's minds are full





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of it, and men's eyes are fixed on it. Regeneration is discussed in newspapers. Regeneration is talked of in private society. Regeneration is argued about in courts of law. Surely it is a time when every true Christian should examine himself upon the subject, and make sure that his views are sound. It is a time when we should not halt between two opinions. We should try to know what we hold. We should be ready to give a reason for our belief. When truth is assailed, those who love truth should grasp it more firmly than ever. Oh! for a greater spirit of decision throughout the law! Oh! for a more hearty determination to be always on the Lord's side!



Reader, I invite you to listen to me, while I try to bring this disputed question before you. I feel deeply that I can tell you nothing new. I know I can say nothing which has not been better said by better men than myself. But every additional witness may be of use in a disputed cause. And if I can only throw a little Scripture light on the subject of regeneration, and make it plain to plain readers of the Bible, I shall thank God, and be abundantly satisfied. What are the opinions of men to you or me? He that judgeth us is the Lord! One point has to be ascertained, and only one – 'What saith the Scripture of truth?'



Now I propose to attempt four things: firstly, to explain *what regeneration, or being born again means*; secondly, to show *the necessity of regeneration*; thirdly, to point out *the marks and evidences of regeneration*; fourthly, to answer *the objections most commonly raised*





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*against the view I hold.* If the Lord God shall enable me to make these four points clear to you, I believe I shall have done your soul a great service.

