

# Becoming Born Again: By Erica Jermanus

There are many Christians who go to church, but they still do not know Christ, or have a personal relationship with Him. Many are just going through the motions and playing religion. Religion is not going to get you anywhere, it is just going to lead to hell. Many go to church, but are not born-again. They continue to live in their sins without confession and repentance.

John 3:3-5 says, "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. 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? 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 Bible says in Romans 8:1, "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." So, if you are in Christ and are walking according to the Spirit, then there is no condemnation for you. Every day, we learn to die to ourselves and our own will and desires. We learn to serve Christ with our lives, and obey His

commandments. When we are following Christ, we want to please Him, because we love Him. We don't please God to earn His grace, love, or salvation. But we please God because we want to show our love to Him and others because of His love for us.

When a person receives Christ as their Lord and Savior and puts their faith and trust in Him, they receive the Holy Spirit. Ephesians 1:13 says, "In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise."

Romans 8:9 says, "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."

When you first come to Christ, there is a transformation that happens in your heart, mind, and life. There is a process of becoming a born-again believer. Not everyone becomes born-again overnight. Sometimes, it takes years of struggling with the same sins and addictions. But we have to be willing to get help from Jesus Christ to overcome those sins. We have to be willing to stop sinning and not go back to the same

cycles that God has delivered us from. If we continue in those sins, it will only lead to destruction. Romans 6:23 says, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

When you ask God to take away those bad habits, or to help you to overcome them, He will do it for you. He will help you to break that cigarette addiction or that alcohol addiction. He will give you His strength to overcome it through the power of the Holy Spirit within you. John 8:36 says, "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."

When you become born-again, God gives you a new and transformed heart and desires. You start to love the things that He loves and hate the things that He hates. You start to hate sin, because you fear Him and you want to please Him with your life. You want to walk in obedience to His commandments. You want to serve Him and others because you love Him. When you love Him, you will want to seek His presence and face.

But you want to seek Him and do what is right, because you want a relationship with Him and you want to get to

know Him. When you have a changed heart, you will want to do the will of God for our life and not your own will. You love Jesus Christ because He first loved you when He died on the tree for your sins, and for all mankind. You will also have a desire to repent and turn away from sin. There may be days you give into sin, but you confess it to God and ask for forgiveness. You ask Him to help you to not make those same mistakes again.

Romans 5:8 says, "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Romans 10:9 says, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."



