

The New Birth is Solely an Act of God's Grace
John 3:3-5

Jesus gave Nicodemus a look into the _____ of _____ (the new birth) and he didn't get it.

Regeneration is the _____ way to _____ the kingdom of God.

John 3:3

Regeneration is an _____ work that God does in the souls of those He _____.

Ezekiel 11:19

Regeneration is _____ since sinners can do _____ that merits salvation: nor do they want to.

Isaiah 64:6-7; Ephesians 2:1-2

Regeneration is only possible because of the _____ of Christ who died and rose again for sinners.

John 3:16; 1 John 4:10

Jesus shows that the _____ of the new birth is meant to bring _____ to the end of themselves.

The _____ reasons that there must be something I can do toward my salvation.

John 3:4

Jesus doesn't entertain his _____, _____ question but takes him to a deeper level of human inability.

John 3:5, 7

It is unfortunate that so many have _____ taught a human work, _____ the very teaching of Jesus.

Being born of water and the Spirit means spiritual _____ not water _____ which would be a human work.

Ezekiel 36:25-26

Being born of water and the Spirit speaks of two aspects of the one new birth: _____ from sin and the spiritually _____ being brought back to life.
Hebrews 10:22

We must be careful so that we don't _____ the _____ of the new birth with the new birth itself.
Titus 3:5–6

Regeneration is completely the act of God (monergism), who sovereignly changes the inclinations of the heart. Once God sets in motion new, holy dispositions, the volitions adjust themselves accordingly.

Shedd, William Greenough Thayer. 2003. *Dogmatic Theology*. Edited by Alan W. Gomes. 3rd ed. Phillipsburg, NJ: P & R Pub.

At this point he could not believe that new birth was a requirement for entrance into the kingdom and was amazed by the very category. His response...is therefore marked with incredulousness, which prompts him to reply with a crassly literalistic interpretation of what Jesus said, as a way of expressing a certain degree of scorn.

Carson, D. A. 1991. *The Gospel according to John*. The Pillar New Testament Commentary. Leicester, England; Grand Rapids, MI: Inter-Varsity Press; W.B. Eerdmans.

If water baptism is so important for entering the kingdom, it is surprising that the rest of the discussion never mentions it again: the entire focus is on the work of the Spirit (v. 8), the work of the Son (vv. 14–15), the work of God himself (vv. 16–17), and the place of faith (vv. 15–16).

Carson, D. A. 1991. *The Gospel according to John*. The Pillar New Testament Commentary. Leicester, England; Grand Rapids, MI: Inter-Varsity Press; W.B. Eerdmans.

Regeneration is an act of God...He is the giver of faith and of repentance...it is an act of which He is the agent. It is God who regenerates. The soul is regenerated. In this sense the soul is passive in regeneration, which (subjectively considered) is a change wrought in us, and not an act performed by us.

Hodge, Charles. 1997. *Systematic Theology*. Vol. 3. Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.