

Born Dead or Alive

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Ephesians 2:1-7, “And you hath he quickened, **who were dead in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.”**

Colossians 2:13-15, “And you, **being dead in your sins** and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having **forgiven you all trespasses; Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances** that was against us, which was contrary to us, and **took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;** And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.”

Neither passage has the word born in them. There is a problem here; because these are the passages used to prove that you are born dead; and yet they do not say anything about being born dead. So; are you born dead? Now that question needs some clarification. Of course you were not born physically dead; I mean that is just too obvious. So I am therefore obviously NOT talking about physically born dead because if you were they would have put your body in a child's casket and buried your body in a grave. That happens you know; and when it does not happen then you are physically born alive. Now if you are physically born alive then you have to have some semblance of life inside you. The soul perhaps or the spirit or even both; here is what we are dealing with the nature of your spiritual side.

It is obvious that the Christian was born again according to John 3:7 as it is an imperative and therefore you must also assume that that means whatever was born again was dead. So the question is what is it; and when did it die?

First we need to find out WHAT it is; and that can be easily deduced from what was born again. Was the physical body born again? Was it the soul that was born again? Or was it the spirit of man that was born again?

John 3:5-7, “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. **That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit**. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.” So we understand being born of water is the same as born of flesh is flesh; and born of Spirit is the same as born of Spirit is spirit. So it is the spirit of man that is given the birth of the Spirit. This is also shown in 1 Corinthians 6:17, “But he **that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit**.” Again the spirit of man has been joined to the Lord and that new nature is God’s nature in the born again Christian.

2 Peter 1:2-4, “Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be **partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.” That divine nature is our spirit which has eternal life. The growing up in the Lord has to do with the soul; the YOU in side where your consciences awareness is. You are not the mind of your brain; and you are not the mind of the spirit. You are not consciously aware of the mind of the spirit aside from what is known in your soul. That is why you are not consciously aware of being seated “...together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus...” That connection is through your spirit and God’s Spirit which is the Spirit of Christ. The connections between these are synonymous. Remember “...he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.” Not two spirits.

Secondly we need to find out WHEN the spirit of man died. Did your spirit die in the man Adam back when he was alive? Wait; were you there back then? NO. So how could your spirit die back then? So you are born physically and that body you

are born in is Adam; so when you are born did that Adam you are born IN; kill your spirit right then? Or in the day the law fell on you and sin revived by the law that hurt your conscience and killed your spirit. What I am saying is, if you are not responsible for the death of your spirit by your own sin; why are you: the soul; bound for Hell prior to getting born again? It was after all only Adam's fault.

Ok, let's get this into perspective: Romans 5:12-17, "Wherefore, as **by one man sin entered into the world**, and **death by sin**; and **so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned**: (For **until the law sin was in the world**: but **sin is not imputed when there is no law**. Nevertheless **death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression**, who is the figure of him that was to come. But **not** as the offence, so also is the free gift. For **if through the offence of one many be dead**, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many. And **not as it was by one that sinned**, so is the gift: for **the judgment was by one to condemnation**, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification. For **if by one man's offence death reigned by one**; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)" A few things of note here: first it does not say the death of the spirit; secondly it does not say born dead. So there is a double application between the body's death and the death of the spirit. The body dies because of sin; but it does not die at birth why would anyone think that the spirit dies at birth when the Bible NEVER says that it does. The innocence counts for something because the Lord said in Matthew 18:3, "And said, Verily I say unto you, **Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven**." And again in Mark 10:13-15, "And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, **Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God**. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God **as a little child, he shall not enter therein**."

John said it this way: John 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**." And again in John 3:5, "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.” There is something about that childlike innocence that the Lord loves that we are to get when we are born again. Peter says this about being born again in 1 Peter 1:23-2:3, “Being **born again**, not of corruptible **seed**, but **of incorruptible, by the word of God**, which liveth and abideth for ever. For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: **But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.** Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, **As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:** If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.”

That very innocence was in Adam prior to his fall. But Adam was a full grown adult and did not have a prior reckoning of sin in his conscience because there was no sin in man. That does not make him sinless; it does not mean though that he was sinful. It means he was innocent. Sin was already around back then but not in the human domain and so we see Adam was innocent and there was a law; but that law had not been broken as of yet until Adam disobeyed God. Because of Adam’s adulthood; and that understanding of that law; the proverbial axe dropped and Adam DIED in the day he ate of that fruit. But was that also a double innuendo for his body to eventually die? Yes of course it was. And when the body dies what happens to that soul? It would die also in hell. But death is never a secession of life; it is an alteration of life. But as long as the body is alive the soul is alive even if the spirit is dead. And like I said death is never a secession of life; but an alteration of life. The spirit is life to the individual and a sort of conduit to God through the spiritual world. It is the life in us; but when it is dead it is disconnected from God and drops down so that it takes hold of hell fire and damnation. If the spirit of a child is dead; that soul has no hope in going to heaven if the body dies while the child is still in innocence. This idea is where the doctrine of “original sin” came from. This also leads to the doctrine of “baptismal regeneration” so the child will go to heaven if it dies in innocence. Remember it is the spirit that is life:

Isaiah 38:16, “O Lord, by these things **men live**, and in all these things **is the life of my spirit**: so wilt thou **recover me**, and **make me to live**.”

John 6:63, “It is the **spirit that quickeneth**; the flesh profiteth nothing: **the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.**”

Romans 8:10, “And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but **the Spirit is life** because of righteousness.”

What is shown in these places is that the spirit never ceases to exist or stops its usefulness as a spirit in man. The connection to God gets severed and that connection drops to hell. Deuteronomy 32:22, “For a **fire is kindled in mine anger**, and shall **burn unto the lowest hell**, and shall consume the earth with her increase, and **set on fire the foundations of the mountains.**” and Proverbs 15:11, “**Hell and destruction are before the LORD**: how much more then **the hearts of the children of men?**” and Psalms 9:17, “**The wicked shall be turned into hell**, and all the nations that forget God.” Where does the Bible say children go to hell? Where does it say the innocent go to hell? Where does it say anyone is born dead?

If you claim to be a Bible Believer; why abandon the Bible on this? If you believe your children are born dead surly you can prove that from the Bible: just ONE passage will do fine. Oh, but you can't! Because it is not there; so shouldn't you change what you believe? Or are you NOT a Bible Believer?

Someone said “what about Psalms 51:5” ok what about it? Psalms 51:5, “Behold, I was **shapen in iniquity**; and **in sin did my mother conceive me.**”

Where does it say born dead? Where does it say sin was imputed to that child: the “I” and the “me” in the passage? So mom was a sinner and was in iniquity; what does that have to do with the child being born dead? If he was born dead; they call that a still birth. The whole “born dead” theme is just that: Calvinistic morbidity, terror, fear, and tyrannical control over people. Rome is no different: and both baptized infants because of their doctrine of “original sin” which is NOT anywhere in the Bible.

Notice in the Psalms above it was not birth where his mother was in sin, but in the conception. So if you are born dead; were you actually dead prior to birth like in the very conception itself?

Romans 4:15, “Because the law worketh wrath: **for where no law is, there is no transgression.**” If there is no transgression then there isn't any judgment for that there was no transgression. And if there is no judgment then there is no payment of that transgression that does not exist: ergo, no dead spirit. Again death cannot pass

upon a child in innocence because he is not responsible to any law; death still reigns in his body, but imputation is that it is not accounted to the soul; and therefore that soul is innocent. It is the SOUL that kills the spirit after all it is the soul that is responsible to the law. But if the soul is innocent how can it be responsible to a law it does not understand? Romans 5:12, “Wherefore, as by one man **sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:** For **until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.**” Notice the WHEN in that passage. It did not say WHERE. It says WHEN! And “when” is a time element that shows that when you were a child the law and sin and death were there; but you were not accountable to them till you understood them; and became guilty in your conscience. God knows this age and time element and you are accountable to Him when this happens.

Romans 7:7-13, “What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, **I had not known sin, but by the law:** for I had not **known** lust, except **the law** had said, Thou shalt not covet. But **sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the law sin was dead.** For **I was alive without the law once:** but **when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died.** And **the commandment, which was ordained to life, I found to be unto death.** For **sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me.** Wherefore **the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.** Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But **sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me** by that which is good; **that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful.**”

Notice: “...For without the law sin was dead. For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died.” So if you were alive without the law once then you were innocent of the law; but when the law came that sin that was in your that was not heretofore imputed; revived in you and your soul became guilty instead of innocent; and that killed your spirit. That sin that was not yet imputed was a deception; but when the law came that sin slew your spirit because of the soul’s guilty sinful act against the law; and the law showed that sin to be exceedingly sinful. So the law would therefore be our schoolmaster to not only teach us about sin; but also provoke us to trust the Lord Jesus Christ.

Galatians 3:22-26, “But **the scripture hath concluded all under sin,** that **the**

promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe. But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.”

Proverbs 20:11, “Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.”

Proverbs 22:6, “Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”

Proverbs 22:15, “Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.”

Proverbs 23:13-14, “Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell.”

It never says that the children are born dead. There is NOT ONE reference for the doctrine of “original sin” and as a Bible Believer I find this doctrine appalling in light of the innocence of children who if they were to die while in their innocence would go to heaven because of the fact that they have an innocent soul and a living spirit. There is no guilt of sin and so without sinful retribution of the death of the spirit. Nevertheless the body can die; because it is sinful; but that sin is NOT imputed to the soul. If the soul is guiltless then how is it that the soul is judged as sinful to make the spirit dead? If you discount personal accountability of your own spirit because of your own sinful state at the age of accountability then you must revert back to the doctrine of “original sin” and thereby blame Adam for all your sins and killing your spirit and so you should not be accountable and salvation would be automatic IF you were chosen as one of the elect, etc... One lie falls and knocks down another and another and another until you are so full of lies you can't tell the truth; I mean you can't tell what the truth really is! Habitual lying is endemic to a liar.

The End
J.P. & S.V.G.