



"And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified." (Acts 20:32)

November 18, 2018

WE HAVE SEEN HIS GLORY

The Disturbing Necessity of the New Birth

Text: [John 3:1-8](#)

1. The Most Important Qualifier (vv1-3)

The Jews expected signs to accompany or inaugurate the promised Kingdom of God (see [Isaiah 35](#)).

"Unless one is born again (better: born from above, or born of God ([John 1:13](#))) he cannot see (better: experience ([John 3:36](#))) the Kingdom of God (in other words restoration, salvation and eternal life)."

2. The Blindness of the Intellect (v.4)

"The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned." (1 Corinthians 2:14, ESV).

3. A Sermon to an Audience of One! (v6-8)

Christ's Text: [Ezekiel 36:24-27](#).

The Application: [John 3:6-7](#)

The Spirit's work in conversion is free and sovereign ([He] blows where [he] wishes). The Spirit's work is mysterious (*I know not how the Spirit moves, Convincing men of sin, Revealing Jesus through the Word, Creating faith in him*.¹). But the effects of the Spirit's work are clear and discernable: a total transformation of character.

Application

"So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ² _____

Faith in Christ is the effect of those who are born of God. (cf: [John 1:12-13](#); [1 John 5:1](#))

Here's the point: One cannot experience eternal life (the Kingdom of God) apart from the decisive, determinative cause of being born of God. And those that are born of God are evident by their vital continuing, obedient faith in Christ.

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² [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#). (2016). (Jn 3:8). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.