

PENTECOSTAL THEOLOGY

VOLUME 2

**THE
NEW
BIRTH**

DAVID K. BERNARD

THE NEW BIRTH

Copyright © 1984 by David K. Bernard

Printing History: 1986, 1987, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1996, 1998,
1999, 2001, 2003, 2004, 2007, 2010

Cover Design by Paul Povolni

All rights reserved. No portion of this publication may be reproduced, stored in an electronic system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or otherwise, without the prior permission of David K. Bernard. Brief quotations may be used in literary reviews.

All Scripture quotations in this book are from the *King James Version* of the Bible unless otherwise indicated.

"Scripture taken from the AMPLIFIED BIBLE, Old Testament. Copyright © 1962, 1964 by Zondervan Publishing House. Used by permission."

Scripture quotations from the Amplified New Testament, © The Lockman Foundation 1954, 1958, used by permission.

"Scripture quotations taken from the HOLY BIBLE: NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION copyright © 1978 by the New York International Bible Society used by permission of Zondervan Bible Publishers."

Printed in the United States of America.

Printed by



The Library of Congress has cataloged the first printing of this title as follows:

Bernard, David K., 1956-

The new birth / by David K. Bernard. – Hazelwood, MO. :

Word Aflame Press, c1984.

346 p.; 21 cm. – (Series in Pentecostal theology; v.2)

Bibliography: p. 340-346.

ISBN 0-912315-77-6 (pbk.)

1. Salvation. 2. Conversion. 3. Pentecostalism. I. Title. II. Series:

Bernard, David K. 1956-

Series in Pentecostal theology ; v. 2.

BT 751.2.B46 1984

234-dc19

85-106418

AACR 2 MARC

Library of Congress

[r86]rev

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
AUTHOR'S PREFACE	11
1. AN HONEST QUESTION	13
The universal need for salvation. Salvation comes only through faith in Jesus Christ. What is salvation? The relation between past, present, and future salvation. The Lord's statement to Nicodemus. The kingdom of God. Peter's answer on the Day of Pentecost. Paul's answer to the Philippian jailer. Comparison of the three answers. Understanding and obeying the gospel.	
2. GRACE AND FAITH	31
Grace defined. Man's salvation stems from God's grace. Grace and works. Grace and faith. Justification by faith. The source of faith. Faith defined. Three components of saving faith. Examples of insufficient belief. Faith and obedience. Faith and works. Continuing faith. The object of faith. Faith and repentance. Faith and water baptism. Faith and the Holy Spirit. Repentance, water baptism, and works. Confession, belief, and salvation. Calling on the name of the Lord. One plan of salvation. Saving faith. An analogy of grace and faith. Grace, faith, and the new birth.	
3. THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST	65
What is the gospel? Death. Burial. Resurrection.	

John the Baptist's message. Christ's message. Peter's message. Philip the Evangelist's message. Ananias' message. Paul's message. The message of Hebrews. The Apostle John's message. The gospel of New Testament preachers. The gospel in typology. Saving faith and the gospel.

4. BIRTH OF WATER AND SPIRIT 85

The new birth doctrine. Birth of water. Natural birth? Identical to birth of Spirit? Cleansing by the Word? Water baptism. Birth of the Spirit. The new birth as a whole. Comparison of first and second births. When is the blood applied? Characteristics of born-again believers. Old Testament saints were not born again as we are. Conclusion.

5. REPENTANCE 102

Repentance defined. Recognition of sin. Confession of sin. Contrition for sin. Decision to forsake sin. Restitution. Repentance and emotion. Examples of repentance. The source of repentance. The command to repent. What happens at repentance? Relationship to water and Spirit baptism. Guidelines for altar work. Repentance and the Christian. The need to emphasize repentance. Conclusion.

6. WATER BAPTISM 122

Water baptism defined. John's baptism. The baptism of Christ. Early baptism by the disciples. Christ's command. Early Christian baptism. Baptismal mode: immersion. Does the baptismal mode matter? Remission of sins at baptism. Baptismal regeneration? Part

of the new birth. Belief and baptism bring salvation. Washing of sins. Part of salvation. Burial with Christ. Baptism into Christ. Spiritual circumcision. Baptism in typology. More than a public confession. "Christ sent me not to baptize." The human element in baptism. Forgiveness and remission. Faith is necessary at baptism. Repentance and baptism are both necessary. Baptism without prior repentance. Infant baptism. Baptism for the dead. Sins after baptism. Why did God choose baptism? Distinction between water and Spirit baptism. Is baptism necessary? The significance of water baptism.

7. BAPTISMAL FORMULA:

IN THE NAME OF JESUS 156
The biblical record. Burial with Christ. Identification with Christ. Taking on the family name. Remission of sins in the Name. Power and authority in the Name. Do all in the Name. Jesus is the highest Name. Acceptance of Jesus as Savior. Acceptance of Jesus as fulness of Godhead. Not a magic formula. Further research. For all people. Oral invocation of the Name. Matthew 28:19. Comparison of the Great Commission accounts. The singular Name. The name of the Son. The name of the Father. The name of the Holy Ghost. The context of Matthew 28:19. Jesus is the New Testament name of God. Conclusion about the baptismal formula. The doctrine of the trinity. Matthew 28:19 teaches Jesus' name baptism. The witness in church history. Does baptismal formula really matter? Conclusion.

8. THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT	186
The Holy Spirit. The baptism of the Spirit. Biblical terminology. Filled with the Spirit. Part of salvation. The founding of the New Testament church. A new experience for the new church. Old Testament prophecy. New Testament promise and command. Fulfillment in the Apostolic Church. The significance of Acts. The Day of Pentecost. Samaria. Paul's conversion. The Gentiles in Caesarea. The disciples of John at Ephesus. Conclusion about the Spirit baptism. Those saved in the Gospels. Only for the Apostolic Church? Salvation without the Spirit? How to receive the Holy Spirit. The work of the Spirit. Conclusion.	
9. SPEAKING IN TONGUES	220
Speaking in tongues defined. Isaiah 28:11-12. Mark 16:17. The Day of Pentecost. Cornelius spoke in tongues. The Ephesians spoke in tongues. The Samaritans spoke in tongues. Paul spoke in tongues. Comparison of the accounts in Acts. Other possible references. Are tongues necessary? The reasons for tongues. Not a sign of the Spirit's abiding presence. After the baptism of the Spirit. The gift of tongues. I Corinthians 12. I Corinthians 13. I Corinthians 14. Conclusions about I Corinthians 12-14. How does speaking in tongues occur? Objections. Miracles exist today. Tongues have not ceased. Receiving the Spirit without tongues? Conclusion.	
10. THE WITNESS IN CHURCH HISTORY:	
BAPTISM	257
Problems in studying church history. Repentance and	

water baptism. Water baptism by immersion. Water baptism as part of salvation. The earliest formula. First and second centuries. Third century. Fourth century. The medieval age. The Reformation era forward. Oneness believers throughout history. Twentieth century. Conclusion.

11. THE WITNESS IN CHURCH HISTORY:	
TONGUES	282
First and second centuries. Third century. Fourth and fifth centuries. The medieval age. The Reformation era forward. Twentieth century. Statistics on Pentecostals today. Conclusion.	
12. ARE THERE EXCEPTIONS?	304
Basic principles. Are the heathen lost? Moral and sincere people. Those who profess Christ. Professing Christians in church history. Extra-biblical speculations. A second chance after death? A subnormal new birth? Destiny of infants. Degrees of punishment. Conclusion.	
13. FOUR ASPECTS OF SALVATION	325
Justification. Regeneration. Adoption. Sanctification. God's eternal plan of salvation. Summary.	
14. AN HONEST ANSWER	336
BIBLIOGRAPHY	340
SCRIPTURE INDEX	346
SUBJECT INDEX	354

TABLES AND CHARTS

The Gospel of New Testament Preachers	77
Passages Teaching Water and Spirit Baptism	78
Comparison of First and Second Births	97
Characteristics of Born-Again Believers	99
<i>Aphesis</i> (Forgiveness/Remission) in the New Testament	144
The Great Commission	172
Biblical Terminology for the Spirit Baptism	189
The Baptism of the Spirit and Tongues	234
Oneness Pentecostals, USA	294
Major UPCI Mission Fields	295
Jesus Name Pentecostals, Non-US, Non-UPCI	296
Russian Pentecostals	298

1

AN HONEST QUESTION

*“Men and brethren, what shall we do?” (Acts 2:37).
“Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” (Acts 16:30).*

Every human being is a sinner and stands in need of salvation. Through the centuries many people have realized this fact and have asked, “How can I be saved?” Christianity proclaims that God has provided salvation through Jesus Christ. However, the question remains, “How can I receive the salvation that Jesus Christ provides?”

We believe the Bible provides the answer to this simple yet vital question. The goal of this book is to find the biblical answer to the question just posed, and to discuss the many issues arising out of this subject. We will attempt to lay aside the doctrines of men and man-made denominations and see what the Bible itself teaches.

The Universal Need for Salvation

The Bible emphatically declares that all human beings are sinners. “Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin?” (Proverbs 20:9). “But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away” (Isaiah 64:6). “There is no man that sinneth not” (I Kings 8:46; II Chronicles 6:36).

The first three chapters of Romans affirm that both Jews and Gentiles stand condemned in God’s sight. Those who did not have the law of Moses are condemned by conscience, and those who had the law of Moses are condemned by the law (Romans 2:12-16). In short, all mankind is under sin (Romans 3:9). “There is none righteous, no, not one” (Romans 3:10; see Psalm 14:1-3). All the world is guilty before God (Romans 3:19). “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23).

Because of this, all mankind is under the sentence of death. “For the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23). “Sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death” (James 1:15).

Salvation Comes Only Through Faith in Jesus Christ

Not only does each man need salvation, there is nothing man can do to save himself. No amount of good works or adherence to law can save a man. Ephesians 2:8-9 pro-

claims, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast." This means salvation is a free gift from God. The death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ made this free gift of salvation available, and the only way to receive salvation is to have faith in Jesus and in the sufficiency of His sacrifice. Of course, saving faith in Christ includes obedience to His gospel and application of His gospel to our lives. (See Chapter 2 for further discussion of grace and faith.)

We must stress that salvation can come only through faith, and that faith must be in the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus asserted, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). He also said we must believe He is God manifested in the flesh as our Savior. "I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins" (John 8:24).

Why is reliance upon Christ absolutely necessary? Since all men are sinners, the holiness of God demanded that He separate Himself from sinful man and also required death as a penalty for man. God chose to bind Himself by the principle of death for sin. Without the shedding of blood (the giving of a life) there can be no remission or release from this penalty (Hebrews 9:22) and no restoration to fellowship with the holy God. (See Ephesians 2:13-17; Colossians 1:19-22.) The death of animals is not sufficient to remit the sin of man (Hebrews 10:4), because man is much greater than the animals in that he was created in the spiritual, mental, and moral image of God (Genesis 1:27). Neither can an ordinary man become the substitutionary sacrifice for another, for

Listen to music from The New Birth like What'll I Do, It's Been A Long Time & more. Find the latest tracks, albums, and images from The New Birth.Â New Birth (also known as The New Birth) is an American funk and R&B group. It was originally conceived in Detroit, Michigan by former