BIBLE STUDY: REGENERATION

The word *regeneration* means “new birth.” Thus, to be regenerated is to be born again, to experience a new birth. But what is this new birth? Is it merely a religious conversion? Is it to have a change in life through self-improvement, or to experience a new beginning by “turning over a new leaf”? The New Testament has much to say about the new birth. It shows us clearly what it means to be regenerated, how we can be regenerated, and the result of being regenerated.

**The Meaning of Regeneration:**

1. To be born again is not self-improvement; it is to be born of God with a new life, the life of God:
   
   John 1:12-13 and note 13\(^2\); John 3:1-6 and notes 2\(^1\), 3\(^1\), and 6\(^2\).

2. To be born again is to be born of both water and the Spirit of God:
   
   John 3:5 and note 5\(^2\).

3. Regeneration is the greatest wonder, the greatest miracle, in the universe:
   
   1 John 2:29 and note 29\(^2\).

**How We Can Be Regenerated:**

1. We are regenerated by the living and abiding word of God as the incorruptible seed of life:
   
   1 Peter 1:23 and note 23\(^2\).

2. We are regenerated also through the resurrection of Jesus Christ:
   
   1 Peter 1:3 and note 3\(^2\).

3. To be regenerated, born again, we must receive Christ by believing into His name:
   
   John 1:12 and note 12\(^2\); John 3:16 and note 16\(^2\); 1 John 5:1 and note 1\(^1\).

**The Result of Regeneration:**

1. In the new birth our human spirit is born of the divine Spirit, and the two spirits become one mingled spirit:
   
   John 3:6 and note 6\(^2\); Romans 8:16 and note 16\(^2\); 1 Corinthians 6:17 and notes 17\(^1\) and 17\(^2\).

2. Through the new birth we become children of God:
3. By being born again we become a new creation:

John 1:12 and note 12²; 1 John 3:1 and notes 1³ and 1⁴.

4. Through regeneration we also enter into the kingdom of God:

2 Corinthians 5:17 and note 17².

5. Regeneration causes us to live a life of divine righteousness and divine love, and enables us to overcome the world, sin, and Satan (the Devil):

John 3:3, 5 and notes 3² and 3³.

6. Regeneration brings to us a living hope (the hope of life) and a glorious inheritance:

1 John 2:29 and note 29⁶; 1 John 3:9 and notes 9² through 9⁴; 1 John 4:7 and notes 7² and 7⁴; 1 John 5:4 and notes 4² through 4⁵; 1 John 5:18-19 and notes 18¹, 18², and 19¹.