

Peter's First Epistle

I-PETER

CHAPTER 1:22-25

TAPE SM. #250 ~ JANUARY 25, 1997

TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“WHY SHOULD WE BE BORN AGAIN?”

THE CHRISTIANS JOURNEY THROUGH THE WILDERNESS OF THE WORLD

THEME OF THE BOOK:

1 Peter 5:12

I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God in which you stand.

INTRODUCTION: Reading of the Text 1:22-25

It's Right for us to Read from Verse 13 to 25

“HOPING THEY SURVIVING THE INTRODUCTION”

We're Asking the Question;

“WHY SHOULD WE BE BORN AGAIN?”

Doctors are warning us about a common enemy that is destroying us faster than any other illness - Heart Disease!

NEARLY 50% OF ALL AMERICANS WILL SUFFER FROM SOME FORM OF HEART DISEASE....

- THE WAY WE LIVE
- WHAT WE EAT, AND EAT, AND EAT
- AND WHAT WE DO NOT DO

It's silent, It's Invisible, Often Undetectable
until it's too late...

We change our diets - we exercise - we recognize the
need to take care of the vitals that promote life...

1 Timothy 4:8

For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.

Deuteronomy 15:9

"Beware lest there be a wicked thought in your heart, saying,

((THAT'S WHY WE WERE COMMANDED IN VERSE 21))
TO FIX OUR HOPE AND FAITH IN GOD

Jeremiah 17:9

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked;
who can know it?"

We have an illness to called
"Leaning" to "Self"

Ezekiel 18:31

"Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel?"

Ezekiel 11:19-20

"Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, ²⁰ that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and do them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God.

In Our Most Recent Studies We've been Challenged to realize two very important realities:

Being Christian's, We Truly Exist as a Family

“LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON & DAUGHTER”
“GOD’S WORK: OUR RESPONSE!”

Ephesians 3:15

from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

God has Established this **“family”** by a one and all-inclusive act, and that was by the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead

Romans 8:11

But if the Holy Spirit of God who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Jesus from the dead will also give life to {your mortal bodies} through His Holy Spirit who dwells in you.

“GOD’S WORK: OUR RESPONSE!”

Philippians 2:13

for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

“WHY SHOULD WE BE BORN AGAIN?”

1.) We Are to Be of a new Parentage vv.22-23

Verse 22a

1a) We become empowered to be Obeyed? vv. 22a

*Since you have purified your souls
in obeying the truth*

- *** **Purified** **GRK48 hagnizo (hag-nid'-zo)**
to be brought to the place of innocents
to be introduced as ceremonially or morally pure

1 Corinthians 6:9

Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither (1) fornicators, nor (2) idolaters, nor (3) adulterers, nor (4) homosexuals, nor (5) sodomites, ¹⁰ nor (6) thieves, nor(7) covetous, nor (8) drunkards, nor (9) revilers, nor (10) extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹ **And such were some of you.** But you were **washed**, but you were **sanctified**, but you were **justified** in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.....

When Fellow Christians Find out what you used to be...
“They can’t believe it”

That’s the Power of God Applying
hagnizo (hag-nid'-zo) Purity

1 Peter 4:3-4

For we have all spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles-- when we walked in (1) lewdness, (2) lusts, (3) drunkenness, (4) rioting, (5) drinking parties, and (6) abominable idolatries. ⁴ In regard to these, **they think it strange** (your old friends) that you do not run with them any longer in the same way of empty living, now they are speaking evil of you.

Verse 22b

1b) The Holy Spirit is Freed to do His Work vv. 22b

(through the Spirit)

* **Through GRK 1223 dia (dee-ah')**

a Greek primary preposition meaning “**the channel** by which an act is performed; **the power** that provides the desired application

John 16:7-12

"Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. ⁸ And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: ⁹ of sin, because they do not believe in Me; ¹⁰ of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; ¹¹ of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

¹² "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.

¹³ However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.

Salvation, An Undetectable Thing:

John 3:8

"The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Verse 22c

1c) Truth Generates (New) True Love

vv. 22b

in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart,

1 John 3:14

We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death.

- * **Sincere** GRK 505 **anupokritos (an-oo-pok'-ree-tos)**
without fragments, without fault, without hypocrisy,
it was a term used in the marketplace... without wax,

A Vase or (for those of you who live in Payne Ranch) **a Vaase**

***** Sincerely, Jack *****
(without hypocrisy)

Not the Empty small talk of the World - "Love you Daring"

- * **Love** GRK 5360 **Philadelphia (fil-ad-el-fee'-ah)**
brotherly affections and care
- * **Love** GRK 25 **agapao (ag-ap-ah'-o)**
divine affection, the love of God. Un affected by circumstance

The Word Usage:

John 3:16a

"For God so **loved** the world
deep & unconditional affection

The Channel:

- * **Heart** GRK 2588 **kardia (kar-dee'-ah)**
the thoughts or feelings (mind) the core of a man:

The Manner:

* **Fervently** GRK 1619 *ektenos* (ek-ten-ocē');
ignite, ignitable, combustible. To burn with intense heart

“One another” - ness

It's a divinely giving love, it has no strings attached and it
requires nothing in return...

It's Love... Because. Because

Not like the Pretend love
that you might see in the world
“O hi brother Bill..... he's such a geek I can't believe they allow him in here”

It's Loving with God's love upon your heart
moved with compassion “supernatural”

YOU CAN LOVE SOMEONE IN THE LORD INSTANTLY - IT'S GOD'S LOVE

For the believer, for the non-believer,
for the messed-up believer

((Last Tuesday Night at the Planning Commission))
THE LOVE OF GOD PREVAILED

2.) The Source of our Living

Verse 23a

having been born again,

In the Physical World, It Take two to give birth to life... The Same is True in the Spiritual World

John 3:8

says that we are "Born of the Spirit."

Birthing or Delivery is of the Holy Spirit

In The Spiritual Setting
Conception begins when the Holy Spirit
is Received into the Heart

John 6:63

It is the Spirit who gives life; The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.

The Birth Takes Place When

Ephesians 1:13

In Jesus you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in Jesus also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,

The Birthing Process:

James 1:21b

receive with meekness the **implanted** word, which is able to save your souls.

1 Thessalonians 2:13 NIV

And we also thank God continually because, when you **received** (invited) the word of God, which you heard from us, you **accepted it** (became the host) not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe.

This is "Genus" Talk Here

(Some of the materiel contained in this program may be too sensitive for younger audiences)

There are two parents needed to produce one offspring. Each one of the parents must be opposite in gender to the other to reproduce the same "genus or kind"

- **Biologically** - this is an indisputable fact
- **Chemically** - this is an indisputable fact

“In The Beginning God Created Adam and Eve”

(They were of the same Genius but of opposite gender)

(It had to be Adam and Eve -

because Adam and Steve wouldn't have made it up the biological street)

Verse 23b

*not of corruptible **seed** but incorruptible, through
the word of God which lives and abides forever,*

* Seed GRK 4701 spora (spor-ah');
NOT of corrupt or polluted parentage:

See Matthew 13:18
(The sower)

Hebrews 4:12a

For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged

NOTE THE PROGRESSION

(#1) The “Life-Word” of God is deposited in a man....

(#2) The man is “Born again”....

(#3) Then “Love” appears as the fruit of the spirit

2a) The Pedigree of Line

not of corruptible seed but incorruptible

2b) The Flow of Power

through the word of God

2c) The Forever-ness of our Future

the word of God which lives and abides forever

Colossians 3:16

Let **the word** of Christ **dwell in** you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace **in your hearts** to the Lord

3.) What Does it Mean to be Born Again vv.24-25

It is to be nurtured and cared for and lead by your new parents in a whole new (spiritual) family

Verse 24

*because "All flesh is as grass,
and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass
withers, and its flower falls away,*

Mans attempts are like the spring time flowers

(Israel & southern California is much the same)

From a record snow fall to record heat in a two weeks' time

The lupines, the poppy's, the wild daisies &
sunflowers explode and then there gone

Verse 25a

In Exuberant Contrast Peter Yells Out...

But the word of the Lord endures forever!!!!

John 6:65-68

And He said, "Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father." ⁶⁶ From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. ⁶⁷ Then Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you also want to go away?" ⁶⁸ **But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.**

The Bible is the "absolute"
overall that can be argued against it

The Bible is the “standard”
against all judgments to be made

The Bible is the “sum total”
after everything else is said and done

The Word Endures for our Peace:

Matthew 24:35

"Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.

The Word Endures for our Security:

Psalms 138:2

I will worship toward Your holy temple, and praise **Your name** for Your lovingkindness and **Your truth**; for You have magnified **Your word** above all Your name.

The Word Endures for our Benefit:

Psalms 100:5

For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations.

The Word Endures for our Healing:

Psalms 107:20

He sent His word and healed them, and delivered them from their destruction's.

The Word Endures for our Pleasure:

2 Thessalonians 2:8

then the (AC) lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord **will consume with the breath of His mouth** (the word) and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

Verse 25b

*" Now this is **the word** which,
by **the gospel** was preached to you.*

The Life-Giving Word is Delivered and Wrapped Tightly in the
Gospel

“WHY SHOULD YOU BE BORN AGAIN?”

Because you need to be:

Publicly - What would be my greatest need?
I Put Much Thought into This

Having my zipper down

Hebrews 4:13

And there's nothing hidden from His sight, but all things are **naked and open** to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

John 3:1-7

There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ² This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him." ³ Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴ Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ **Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'**

“WHY SHOULD I BE BORN AGAIN?”

Because without being born again you will never find your way home

THAT SOUNDS AWFULLY NARROW!

Matthew 7:13-14

"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who going in by it. ¹⁴ "Because **narrow** is the gate and **difficult** is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Of Course it's Narrow...

Try Crossing the San Francisco Bay without going over the **Narrow** Golden Gate Bridge

Try Flying in a 500 passenger jumbo jet across the planet and then landing on a little 400 ft. Wide, one mile long concrete slab.... **Narrow is Good**

Take a cruise ship from Los Angeles to Hawaii with the navigator setting the compass 1⁰ off in Los Angeles... do you realize that you'd miss Hawaii by nearly two hundred miles.... **Narrow is what you want!**

What If You Needed Surgery on your nose and the Surgeon decided he would start cutting on your foot so he could eventually wind up reaching your nose

(Narrow is Good)

What if.... Eternity is like the Los Angeles Freeway system with all of its lines, interchanges, and choices but only one FREEWAY will take you home to your Father's house...

What if Jesus says **He's the only one who knows the way there... What if?**

John 14:6

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

(Then Narrow is Good)

Being Born Again
is to start again

(If you could just start life all over again)

Ezekiel 36:25-27

"Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. ²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

Invitation to Receive

1. **Stress clearly** and repeat **the benefits** of the teaching for those who believe.
2. **Help the uncommitted** to see that God wants this for them too.

3. That **the choice is theirs** to make freely.

4. Choice **demands responsibility**.

5. And that the decision is **now**.

Matthew 4:17

From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Revelation 3:20

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

John 10:27-28

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. ²⁸ And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

Romans 10:9-11

that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. ¹¹ For the scripture says, "Whosoever trust in Him shall never be ashamed."

Matthew 10:32-33

"Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. ³³ But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven."