

2023 GraceLife Conference (Session 6)

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Scripture References:

- Colossians 2:8-13, *NKJV*
- Hebrews 6:1, 2
- 1 Corinthians 15:1-8
- 2 Corinthians 5:17
- Ephesians 2:6
- 1 Corinthians 2:6-8, *NKJV*
- Romans 6:3-5, *NKJV*
- Ephesians 2:4-7, *NKJV*
- John 3:14
- Numbers 21:4-9
- Isaiah 53:1, 10, 11, *NKJV*
- Luke 24:13-32

Summary:

*Being born again is a significant event marking the beginning of a new life for the believer. It is the most important thing we could ever do; however, there are levels to this critical spiritual state that most of the church does not understand. Unlike the disciples, Paul saw Jesus after His ascension because he received a revelation of how God operates. This gave him the spiritual vision to write to the church about the significance of becoming a new creation in Christ. Born-again believers baptized into Christ are in Him; this means that whatever happened to Jesus—including His resurrection from the dead and ascension into heaven—will also happen to us. Moving away from deceptive religious thinking and gaining a proper understanding of our baptism into Christ reveals that His finished works assured us of our salvation the moment we accepted Him, regardless of what we do in the future. What Jesus did on earth was not just a one-time event, but the beginning of an ongoing operation that is still happening in the lives of believers today.*

Notes:

1. As new creations in Christ, we must pay attention to what's going on around us and resist being influenced by worldly principles. We need spiritual understanding so that we can be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all wisdom.
2. It's certainly important to have faith in Jesus and in God's Word; however, to understand what happened to us when we got born again, we need faith specifically in the work God is doing in us right now.
3. The word "baptized" means to be enveloped in or immersed in. When we are baptized by the Holy Spirit, we become immersed in Him; when God looks at us, He no longer sees us, but Christ. Whatever happened to Christ happens to us as well.
4. The Old Testament foreshadowed Jesus' works; He took our sickness and our sins. The Old Testament foretold Jesus being lifted up on the cross. We cannot simply look at Christ on the cross naturally; we must look at Him from a supernatural perspective.

Category: grace

Keywords: new, life, ascension, revelation, resurrection, heaven, baptism, salvation