

The Foundations of Spiritual Birth

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Introductory Verses

John 3:3: Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

John 3:5: Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

Matthew 6:33: But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Mark 12:29-31: And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

Luke 22:42: Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.

Hebrews 10:7: Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

Matthew 6:9-10: After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Matthew 6:12: And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Matthew 5:29: And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

Matthew 18:9: And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire.

Deuteronomy 18:10-12: ¹⁰There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an

¹¹enchanter, or a witch, Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the Lord: and because of these abominations the Lord thy God doth drive them out from before thee.

Acts 2:38: Then Peter said unto them, **Repent**, and **be baptized** every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the **remission** of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the **Holy Ghost**.

Matthew 7:12: Therefore **all things** whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

Matthew 23:23: Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, **judgment**, **mercy**, and **faith**: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

1 Peter 5:6-7: Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

1 Peter 4:2: That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God.

Matthew 7:11: If ye then, being evil, know how to give **good gifts** unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

Galatians 5:21-23: Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Ephesians 4:20-22: But ye have not so learned Christ; If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

Romans 13:14: But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the **lusts** thereof.

Ephesians 2:3: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Titus 2:12: Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly **lusts**, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world.

1 Peter 4:2: That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God.

1 Peter 5:5: Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: **for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.**

Matthew 7:1-3: ⁴¹Judge not, that ye be not judged. **2** For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. **3** And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?

Mark 12:41-44: And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much. ⁴² And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing. ⁴³ And he called unto him his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in,

than all they which have cast into the treasury: ⁴⁴ For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living.

Proverbs 16:18: **Pride** goeth before **destruction**, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

1 Peter 3:3-5: ³Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; ⁴ But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. ⁵ For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands:

Luke 6:27-38: But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you, ²⁸ Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you. ²⁹ And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloak forbid not to take thy coat also. ³⁰ **Give to every man that asketh of thee; and of him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again** ³¹ And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise. ³² For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them. ³³ And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same. ³⁴ And if ye lend to them of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? for sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ **But love ye your enemies, and do good**, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil. ³⁶ Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful. ³⁷ Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven: ³⁸ **Give, and it shall be given unto you;** good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

Proverbs 21:13: Whoso stoppeth his ears **at the cry of the poor**, he also shall cry himself, but shall not be heard.

Hebrews 11:6: But **without faith** it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

James 2:26: For as the body **without** the spirit is dead, so **faith without** works is dead also.

Romans 12:19: Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, **Vengeance is mine; I will repay**, saith the Lord.

James 1:19: Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, **slow to wrath**:

Ephesians 5:20: **Giving** thanks always for **all things** unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

Romans 8:28: And we know that all things work together for good to them that love **God**, to them who are the called according to **his purpose**.

Philippians 4:7: And the **peace** of God, which **passeth** all **understanding**, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Psalms 91:1-3: ¹He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. ² I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. ³ Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the

noisome pestilence. ⁴ He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler. ⁵ Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; ⁶ Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. ⁷ A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. ⁸ Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. ⁹ Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation.

Ephesians 6:1: Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. ² Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) ³ That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. ⁴ And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. ⁵ Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; ⁶ Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; ⁷ With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men: ⁸ Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free. ⁹ And, ye masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening: knowing that your Master also is in heaven; neither is there respect of persons with him. ¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. ¹³ Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; ¹⁵ And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶ Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. ¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: ¹⁸ Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Romans 14:13: Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a **stumblingblock** or an occasion to fall in his brother's way.

Romans 14:20: For meat destroy not the work of God. All things indeed are pure; but it is evil for that man who eateth with offence.

1 Corinthians 8:9: But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a **stumblingblock** to them that are weak.

Revelation 2:14: But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a **stumblingblock** before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.

The Pillars of Spiritual Birth:

1. The love of God
2. The love of Neighbor
3. Faith in God
4. Justice
5. Repentance and forgiveness

6. Judgment
7. Mercy
8. Charity
9. Self-denial
10. Peace

Basic Rules for Spiritual Birth:

1. Seek first the kingdom and righteousness of God. This becomes a priority in our lives, compared to all that is earthly and fleshly.
2. Accept and apply the two greatest commandments.
3. Have a real faith in God and Christ, and under no circumstances accept worship of other gods, communication with the dead, witches, magicians, spirits, sorcerers, etc. (See course on Faith).
4. Recognize God as a loving Father, whose entire law translates love, justice, mercy, and faithfulness, and simply provides rules for expressing the two greatest commandments. (See course on Listening to God's Voice).
5. Walk firmly in justice, despising injustice and iniquity.
6. Be quick to repent and grant forgiveness (see course on Forgiveness).
7. Avoid hasty judgments, as well as hasty condemnations (see course on Judgment).
8. Show mercy.
9. Show charity. Do not always think about yourself or what you will receive. Give without expecting anything in return from humans. Give even when you feel impoverished. You can give of your services, time, money, possessions, etc. Like the early church, our charitable actions should be an inherent part of our Christianity (see course on the Law of Parallels).
10. Strip off the old man, pride, envy, covetousness, and anything that distances us from God. Avoid occasions of stumbling and placing stumbling blocks before people.
11. Through faith and obedience, remain in the peace of Christ, regardless of external circumstances: walk by faith and not by sight.
12. Demonstrate love for our neighbor, carefully avoiding doing to others what we would not want done to us, and doing for them what we would want done for ourselves.