

How may I know if I have been born again by Jesus Christ?

Answers to Questions Concerning the Restored Gospel from HisWorkmanship.net

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Question: [*How may I know if I have been born again by Jesus Christ?*](#)

Answer(s)

In Jesus Christ we are born again with a spiritual birth for a specific purpose: to become new *creatures* who dwell in the kingdom of heaven, that is, in *righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost* (II Corinthians 5:17 & John 3:1-22 with Romans 14:17 & Matthew 6:9-15). According to Paul, the Apostle of Jesus Christ, through this new birth we are created in Christ Jesus so we may do the *good works* which God has foreordained for us.

*For we are his workmanship,
created in Christ Jesus unto good works,
which God hath before ordained
that we should walk in them.*

Ephesians 2:10

Therefore, by reviewing scriptures that illustrate God's methods and His purposes in the new birth, we can better understand how and when this new birth takes place and matures in our lives.

Peter, the Apostle of Jesus Christ, wrote that we are *born again* (spiritually) by an *incorruptible seed*, which he identified as *the Word of God*.

*Seeing ye have purified your souls
in obeying the truth
through the Spirit
unto unfeigned love of the brethren,
See that ye love one another
with a pure heart fervently.*

***Being born again,
not of corruptible seed,
but of incorruptible,***

*by the word of God,
which liveth and abideth forever.*

I Peter 1:22,23

Consider further how in *the parable of the sower* Jesus likened *the word of God* to a seed, saying:

*Now the parable is this;
The seed is the word of God.*

Luke 8:11

Briefly understood, God's word is to be viewed as a seed that is to be sown within us through preaching, that is, through the *hearing* of the word of God (Roman 10:15-16 & I Corinthians 1:21, 2:3-5, 3:6-7, etc.). The sown word, if retained, establishes faith within us.

*So then faith cometh by hearing,
and hearing by the word of God.*

Romans 10:16

This is why James, the Apostle of Jesus Christ, encouraged us to *receive with meekness the Engrafted Word*. James was speaking of Jesus Christ, who is the incarnate Word of God (John 1), the only One who is able to save our souls.

*Wherefore lay aside all filthiness
and superfluity of naughtiness,
And receive with meekness,
the Engrafted Word,
which is able to save your souls.*

*But be ye doers of the word,
and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.*

James 1:21,22

Why and how can we be born anew by the Word of God? Just how exactly does the Word of God, as a *seed*, give us a new birth? How is it possible that the *engrafted word* is able to save our souls? Consider the following.

Jesus Christ testified that we will either be *justified* or *condemned* by our words (Matthew 12). Therefore, knowing that none of us can *tame* his or her own tongue (James 3), God sent His own Word (Son) to dwell within us by the Spirit of His Son (Galatians 4:6). God did this to justify us by having His Word (His Son) become the source of our words. That is, God is intent on replacing our words with His own living and abiding Word, Jesus Christ (see John 1 & 14-17; Galatians 2:20).

If we *receive with meekness* God's *engrafted Word* (Jesus Christ), His words will eventually grow to fruition within us and we will be able to speak words that do not condemn us at the last day. That is, His words – born as the fruit of His Spirit abiding within us – will justify us. As

God's indwelling Word, Jesus Christ enables us to speak without offense before God. More importantly, He enables us to speak through faith in His words (Colossians 3:1-16 with Luke 8:11-15). Through this process, Jesus Christ becomes the *abundance* of our hearts, the *wellspring* from which and by which we speak (Isaiah 57:19 & 59:21 with Proverbs 10:21, 15:4, 18:4, 119:1-176 etc.).

I create the fruit of the lips;
Peace, peace to him that is far off,
and to him that is near, saith the Lord; and I will heal him.
But the wicked are like the troubled sea,
when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt.
There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked.

Isaiah 57:19-21

Consequently, when God looks upon those who have been truly born anew through His *incorruptible seed*, God will see His Son, meaning His own Word, issuing forth from within their lives as a fountain of living waters (John 7:37-40).

Recall that in the beginning God made every seed such that it brings forth life after its own kind (Genesis 1,2). The *incorruptible seed*, meaning the Word of God, is no different. It, too, brings forth life after its own kind. Thus, if the Word of God is planted as a seed within our lives, it will bring forth ***words of truth***, good words of faith after its own kind – not words born of our old natures, meaning the *thorns* and *thistles* of an evil tongue (Hebrews 6:8 with James 3:6-10). Therefore, if we are truly born anew by the Word (Son) of God, we will speak the words of Jesus Christ – but only if we *let* His words dwell in ourselves richly through faith on His name (Colossians 3:16 with Hebrews 3,4).

But behold, why do ye ponder these things in your hearts?
Do ye not remember that I said unto you that after that
ye have received the Holy Ghost, ye could speak
with the tongue of angels?

And now, how could ye speak with the tongue of angels
save it were by the Holy Ghost?
Angels speak by the power of the Holy Ghost,
wherefore, they speak the words of Christ.

Wherefore, I said unto you,
Feast upon the words of Christ;
for behold the words of Christ
will tell you all things what ye should do.

...

For behold, again I say unto you,
that if ye will enter in by the way
and receive the Holy Ghost,

it will shew unto you all things what ye should do.

II Nephi 14:2-4,6

Thus, by patiently letting God's Word become the source of our words, we allow His living and abiding Word, Jesus Christ, to become our justification (Psalm 119 with John 1). With His Word *abiding* within us, when God looks upon us in judgment He will see His own Son in our place; that is, He will see His Word in place of our words (II Corinthians 3-5 with Romans 5-8). Thus, through grafting His Word within us, God provides the way for us to live *through* Jesus (I John 4:9); and in so doing, Jesus becomes our *life* (Colossians 3:1-16 with John 14:6).

Like all seeds, God's Word has life contained within itself (John 5 & 12). God's Word contains all of the information needed to bring forth a new life from within us and then bear forth fruit of the same through us unto the glory of God (Hebrews 11:1 & Matthew 5 with Isaiah 37:31 & I Timothy 4:1-4). God's Word contains the DNA, if you will, of the body of Christ (Romans 1). It contains all of the genetic (spiritual) information or material of the children of God, those who speak the truth by the Spirit of truth (those who are grafted into the True Vine; John 15). Thus, those who hear the word of God, and receive His word such that they allow it to grow within their very souls, are spiritually conceived; and if they continue in the same word of truth, in time they will bring forth an abundance of fruit to the honor and glory of our Heavenly Father (Luke 8 with Galatians 6:7-10).

This process of the new birth begins with God speaking followed by our hearing the Word of God preached (Romans 10 with I Corinthians 2). Recall Jesus' parable about the *sower* of the word of God:

*And when much people were gathered together,
and were come to him out of every city,
He spake by a parable, saying,*

*A sower went out to sow his seed;
And as he sowed,
some fell by the wayside;
and it was trodden down,
and the fowls of the air devoured it.*

*And some fell upon a rock;
and as soon as it was sprung up,
it withered away,
because it lacked moisture.*

*And some fell among thorns;
and the thorns sprang up with it,
and choked it.*

*And others fell on good ground,
sprang up,
and bare fruit an hundred-fold.*

*And when he had said these things,
he cried,
He who hath ears to hear,
let him hear.
And his disciples asked him, saying,
What might this parable be?*

*And he said,
Unto you it is given to know
the mysteries of the kingdom of God;
But to others in parables;
that seeing they might not see,
and hearing they might not understand.*

*Now the parable is this;
The seed is the word of God.*

*That which fell by the wayside
are they who hear;
and the devil cometh and taketh away
the word out of their hearts,
lest they should believe and be saved.*

*That which fell on the rock
are they, who, when they hear,
receive the word with joy;
and they have no root,
but for a while believe,
and in a time of temptation fall away.*

*And that which fell among thorns
are they, who, when they have heard,
go forth and are choked with
cares, and
riches, and
pleasures of life,
and bring no fruit to perfection.*

*But that which fell on the good ground
are they, who receive the word
in an honest and good heart,
having heard the word,
keep what they hear,
and bring forth fruit with patience.*

For no man, when he hath lighted a candle,

*covereth it with a vessel,
or putteth it under a bed;
but setteth it on a candlestick,
that they who enter in may see the light.*

*For nothing is secret,
which shall not be made manifest;
neither hid,
which shall not be made known,
and go abroad.*

*Take heed therefore how ye hear;
for whosoever receiveth,
to him shall be given;
and whosoever receiveth not
from him shall be taken
even that which he seemeth to have.*

Luke 8:4-18

As explained in this parable, people respond in four basic ways to the Word of God (cf. Revelation 22:11 with Isaiah 59:21). The first three do not result in the fruit of God's Spirit being born in a person's life (see John 15, Galatians 5 with John 6:28-63). Only the last response bears good fruit.

*And, again, beware of false prophets,
who come to you in sheep's clothing;
but inwardly they are ravening wolves.*

*Ye shall know them by their fruits;
for do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?*

*Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit;
but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.*

*A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit;
neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.*

*Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit,
is hewn down, and cast into the fire.*

Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

Matthew 7:24-29 (15-20 KJV)

It is only by *keeping* the Word of God with *patience* within ourselves for the intent of bearing the fruit of the same that we can know we are born of God. That is, it is only in

bearing God the fruit of His countenance (His Spirit of truth) to His honor as expressed through Jesus Christ that we may know that His word is truly abiding within us. All other responses to the Word of God fall short of bringing glory to God. Therefore, in the words of the prophet:

*Sow to yourselves in righteousness,
reap in mercy;
break up your fallow ground;
For it is time to seek the Lord,
till he come and rain righteousness upon you.*

Hosea 10:12

God's Word, Jesus Christ, became flesh and dwelt among us (John 1). He came so that we be might born of His words, for His words are spirit and they are life (John 6, esp. 6:63). He came to fill us with God's words so we might be cleansed and sanctified by the same.

*Now ye are clean through the word
which I have spoken unto you.*

John 15:3

*Sanctify them through thy truth;
thy word is truth.*

John 17:17

Therefore, it is by faith that the *incorruptible seed* of God's Word (Son) is sown into our hearts. By faith we allow God to plant His Word within us, and by faith we allow His Word to take root within us and bear fruit of the same. As it is written, those who receive Jesus Christ as God's Word of truth, receive the power to become God's children.

*He [Jesus] came unto His own,
and His own received Him not.*

*But as many as received Him,
to them gave He power
to become the sons of God;
Only to them who believe on His name.*

*He was born,
not of blood,
nor of the will of the flesh,
nor of the will of man,
But of God.*

*And the same Word was made flesh,
and dwelt among us,*

*And we beheld His glory,
the glory as of the Only Begotten
of the Father,
full of grace and truth.*

*John bear witness of Him,
and cried, saying,
This is He of whom I spake;
He who cometh after me,
is preferred before me;
for He was before me.*

*For in the beginning was the Word,
even the Son,
who is made flesh,
and sent unto us by the will of the Father.
And as many as believe on His name
shall receive of His fullness.
And of His fullness have all we received,
even immortality and eternal life,
through His grace.*

John 1:11-16

*Abide in me, and I in you.
As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself,
except it abide in the vine;
no more can ye,
except ye abide in me.*

*I am the vine,
ye are the branches.
He that abideth in me,
and I in him,
the same bringeth forth much fruit;
for without me ye can do nothing.*

*If a man abide not in me,
he is cast forth as a branch,
and is withered;
and men gather them,
and cast them into the fire,
and they are burned.*

*If ye abide in me,
and my words abide in you,*

*ye shall ask what ye will,
and it shall be done unto you.*

*Herein is my Father glorified,
that ye bear much fruit;
so shall ye be my disciples.*

John 15:4-8

The way we become *doers* of the *Engrafted Word* begins with feasting upon the words of Christ. By feasting upon His words, we are guided *into all truth* (John 14:26, 16:13). That is, His words will tell us what we should do in all things, which is what it means to be born again – as opposed to living by the dictates of the fleshly desires and carnal impulses of our fallen nature (II Nephi 14:4 with John 6:63).

Similar to the parable of Jesus and the testimony of Peter, Alma admonishes us to *give place* to the Word of God as a seed and to allow it to grow within us through faith.

*Now, we will **compare the word unto a seed.***

*Now, if ye give place that a seed
may be planted in your heart,
Behold, if it be a true seed, or a good seed—
if ye do not cast it out by your unbelief
that ye will resist the Spirit of the Lord—
Behold, it will begin to swell within your breasts;*

*And when you feel these swelling motions,
ye will begin to say within yourselves:
'It must needs be that this is a good seed, or that the
word is good, for it beginneth to enlarge my soul,
Yea, it beginneth to enlighten my understanding,
Yea, and it beginneth to be delicious to me.'*

*Now behold, would not this increase your faith?
I say unto you, Yea;
Nevertheless, it hath not grown up to a perfect knowledge.*

...
*But if ye will nourish the word—
Yea, nourish the tree as it beginneth to grow,
by your faith with great diligence and with patience—
looking forward to the fruit thereof,
And it shall take root;
And behold, it shall be a tree springing up
unto everlasting life!*

*And because of your diligence and your faith
and your patience with the word in nourishing it,*

*that it may take root in you,
Behold, by and by, ye shall pluck the fruit thereof,
which is most precious,
which is sweet above all that is sweet,
and which is white above all that is white,
yea, and pure above all that is pure,*

*And ye shall feast upon this fruit, even until ye are filled
that ye hunger not, neither shall ye thirst;*

*Then my brethren, ye shall reap the rewards of your faith
and your diligence and patience and longsuffering,
waiting for the tree to bring forth fruit unto you.*

Alma 16:152-155,170-173

Accordingly, Jesus taught that if we love Him by *keeping* His words within us, He and His Father will love us and make their *abode* within us.

*He that hath my commandments,
and keepeth them,
he it is that loveth me;
And he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father,
and I will love him,
and will manifest myself to him.*

...
*If a man love me,
he will keep my words;
and my Father will love him,
and we will come unto him,
and make our abode with him.*

*He that loveth me not
keepeth not my sayings;
And the word which ye hear is not mine,
but the Father's which sent me.*

John 14:21-24

*I am the vine,
ye are the branches.
He that abideth in me, and I in him,
the same bringeth forth much fruit;
For without me ye can do nothing.*

John 15:5

*Therefore if any man live in Christ,
he is a new creature;
Old things are passed away;
Behold, all things are become new,
and receiveth all the things of God,
who hath reconciled us to himself in Jesus Christ,
and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation.*

II Corinthians 5:17,18

Similarly, He taught His disciples to pray, "Give us this day our daily bread" (Matthew 6:9-16). Why? As it is written, we do not live by bread only, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of the Lord are we to live:

*And thou shalt remember all the way
which the Lord thy God led thee
these forty years in the wilderness,
To humble thee, and to prove thee,
to know what was in thine heart,
whether thou wouldest keep His commandments,
or no.*

*And He humbled thee,
and suffered thee to hunger,
and fed thee with manna,
which thou knewest not,
neither did thy fathers know;
That He might make thee know
that **man doth not live by bread only,
but by every word
that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord
doth man live.***

Deuteronomy 8:2,3

In summary, those who are truly born of the Spirit of God bear the fruit of God's Spirit by the Word of God (Galatians 5:22-26). In the words of Peter, the Apostle of Jesus Christ, we may know that we are born again if we obey the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of one another.

*Seeing ye have purified your souls
in obeying the truth
through the Spirit
unto unfeigned love of the brethren,
See that ye love one another
with a pure heart fervently.*

***Being born again,
not of corruptible seed,
but of incorruptible,
by the word of God,
which liveth and abideth forever.***

I Peter 1:22,23

The following articles provide further scriptures and discussion on being born of God through the incorruptible seed, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ.

- Born Again by the Incorruptible Seed, the Word of God
- "The Testimony of Jesus": The DNA of the Body of Christ
- [The Witness of God is Greater](#)

[Return](#)