

There Are Two Classes of Human Beings – The Once-Born and the Twice-Born

This is one distinction we have to make to think the thoughts of God after Him and to bring our beliefs into harmony with the Holy scriptures found in the Christian Bible.

John 3:3 [NIV] *“In reply Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, **no-one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.**”*

Jesus Christ was **not** speaking figuratively as the rest of this chapter confirms.

Jesus was speaking precisely, setting forth meanings as blunt and downright as it is possible for language to convey.

John 3:5 [NIV] *“Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, **no-one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.**”*

The “*water*” refers to baptism where total immersion is likened to our burial in our grave.

Romans 6:3-4 [NIV] *“**Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.**”*

Paul understood this death of an old life so that we could start a new life.

John 3:6 [NIV] *“Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.”*

Our human birth was a physical act of human flesh, this second birth is the act of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit enters into our life and a new being regeneration takes place.

This is a very clear line of demarcation that is mentioned throughout the entire New Testament.

Just who belongs to one class and who to the other it is **not** always possible to judge, though the two kinds of life ordinarily separate from each other.

Those who are twice-born centre their lives around Jesus Christ.

Those only once-born cluster together only by ties of nature, race, political or social interests.

Hostility has always existed between once-born and twice-born people.

John 16:33 [NIV] *“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. **In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.**”*

Jesus Christ warned His twice-born disciples that they would be persecuted.

Matthew 5:10-12 [NIV] *“**Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.** “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”*

This same theme of persecution runs right through the entire Christian Bible from the once-born Cain who murdered the twice-born Abel [**Genesis 4:1-8**], to the book of Revelation where the end of human history comes in a burst of blood and fire.

The main reason for this hostility between once-born and twice-born is stated clearly by Jesus Christ.

John 15:18-19 [NIV] *“If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. **If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.**”*

Jesus was persecuted because He rightly claimed to be the Son of God.

Romans 8:14 [NIV] *“because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.”*

Twice-born Christians will be persecuted because we rightly claim to be created children of God.

Difference of moral standards, opposite ways of life between once-born and twice-born may contribute to this hostility, but the real cause lies much deeper.

There are at this time two spirits at work in society.

1 John 5:19 [NIV] *“We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.”*

The “*evil one*” is referring to Satan, who is at this time being allowed by God to influence all of once-born humanity.

1 John 5:20 [NIV] *“We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.”*

The twice-born are guided by the Spirit of Truth, the Holy Spirit whom Jesus Christ asked the Father to send to teach them all things [**John 14:26**].

These two spirits can never be reconciled in human time or in eternity.

This hostility began somewhere in the remote past before the creation of human beings and continues to this day.

Any effort to bring peace between these two spirits is not only futile but contrary to the moral laws of the universe.

This teaching that the spirit of the once-born is at enmity with the spirit of the twice-born is very likely to bring down every kind of violent abuse on the head of the teacher.

Such a teacher will be considered a bigot for daring to draw such a line of distinction between humans.

Such teaching will be considered as malignant ideas at odds with the “*brotherhood of man*” and can only be held by teachers of disunity and hate.

This mighty rage against the solid biblical teaching, only serves to confirm the truth, but this no-one seems to notice.

The Christian Bible teaches what we all should honestly recognise, that two human races occupy the earth simultaneously throughout all the history of humanity.

A once-born human race that sprang from the loins of Adam and a regenerated twice-born race that is born of the Holy Spirit of God, through the redemption which is in Jesus Christ alone.

To accept this truth requires a tough-mindedness and a spiritual maturity that few modern Christians possess and the courage to face the persecution that will be the result of accepting and teaching this truth.

Matthew 10:34-39 [NIV] *“Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to turn “a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law, a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.’ “Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.”*

The teachings of Jesus Christ are so radical that they will bring on believers, the twice-born Christians, persecution and hatred.

Matthew 10:40-42 [NIV] *“He who receives you receives me, and he who receives me receives the one who sent me. Anyone who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and anyone who receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man’s reward. And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward.”*

Any twice-born Christians who steadfastly teach what Jesus Christ taught and live out His words in their lives will receive a reward in their future life.

Those who accept their teaching and support it in any way they can, will also receive a reward in their future life.

Living and teaching a Christian way of life will always invite persecution, but the rewards are well worth the pain.

Matthew 5:10-11 [NIV] *“Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.”*

This persecution has always been part of life for the twice-born Christians and will continue right up to the return of Jesus Christ.