

Faith Christian Fellowship
September 27, 2015
Strong Foundations: Born Again

TEXT: John 3:3-8

The blood of Jesus purchased legal redemption, but man still had the nature of the devil. God had to actually changing man's nature.

- ♥ Adam's sin plunged man into a horrible state. Ephesians 2:1-3
 - Every one of us was dead by being immersed in trespasses and sins. Sin comes as a result of following:
 - Desires of the flesh: the fallen human nature which is lustful, prideful, and self-centered. Galatians 2:16 / Galatians 5:13-21
 - And of the mind: The mind of man, when not renewed to the Word of God, will cause us to reason our way into sin. It is natural and normal for humans to sin. Colossians 1:21 / Ephesians 4:18 / James 1:14-15
 - Our actions are prompted and molded by:
 - Course of this world: Romans 12:2 / 1 John 2:15-17 / 2 Timothy 4:10 / 1 John 5:19
 - The prince of the power of the air: This is Satan, The ruler of demonic influences throughout the world. 2 Corinthians 4:4 John 12:31 / John 14:30 / John 16:11 / Ephesians 6:11-12
 - This is written to Christians. Notice verses 11-13. Satan uses the same methods to control our behavior that he uses to control the unconverted.
 - Ephesians 2:3 The basis of our problems: by nature the children of wrath. Simply having our sins forgiven is insufficient. We need a new nature. Romans 5:15 / John 8:44
 - All attempts to control the behavior of men from the outside are doomed to failure because man is inherently wrong. Politics, psychology, and religion all fail without a nature change "You must be born again."
- ♥ God's plan to deal with man's fallen nature. Ephesians 2:4-9
 - God acted on our behalf out of His own nature: He is rich in mercy. Psalm 86:15 / Psalm 100:5 / Psalm 103:8 / Psalm 103:17 / Psalm 106:1 / Psalm 107:1 / Psalm 108:4 / Psalm 118:1 / Psalm 118:1-4 / Psalm 136 / Psalm 145:8 / 2 Chronicles 5:13 / 2 Chronicles 20:21
 - Because of His great love. The sole motivation for the plan of salvation comes from the nature of God. It was love that compelled Christ to go to the Cross.
 - Verse 7: His ultimate goal is to spend eternity demonstrating His goodness by the kindness and mercy with which He treats us.
- ♥ God's unreasonable plan: trade our death for Christ's life, to infuse us with His own life and nature. Note verses 5& 6
 - Positionally righteous: Acquitted of all crimes and seated with Christ in the heavenly places. Romans 3:20-25. To be declared righteous, or to be justified, means to be tried and found "not guilty."
 - Infused with the life of God. John 5:24-26 We have passed from death into life. 1 John 3:9 The seed of God's life in us makes it intolerable to live contrary to our godly nature. Philippians 2:12-13
 - The Requirement: Ephesians 2:8-9
 - Salvation comes to us by grace. **Grace is a free gift** offered because of the nature of the Giver. No strings are attached. It is **received by faith**. Faith is the hand that reaches out to take what is freely given.
 - Our faith is in the Gospel of Christ: 1 Corinthians 15:3-5 Christ died for our sins. He was buried and rose again the third day. **Jesus is now alive**. Colossians 1:21-22 / Romans 10:9-10.
 - We are born of the Spirit, no longer Satan's children, but God's. 1 Peter 1:3 / John 3:3-7 / Romans 8:15, 16
 - The Result: a new spiritual reality. New nature, new way of life. Ephesians 2:10 **Created in Christ Jesus**
 - 2 Corinthians 5:17 We are re-created. The Bible tells us who we are now: for instance Ephesians 4:24 / 1 Corinthians 3:3 / Romans 5:5
 - Scriptures which describe the real you: 2 Corinthians 5:21 / / Romans 5:1-5 / Romans 6:4 / 1 Corinthians 2:12 / 2 Corinthians 2:14-15 / Galatians 3:13-14,26-29 / Ephesians 1:3-14 / Ephesians 2:19-22 / now you find some:

**I AM A NEW CREATION,
CREATED IN RIGHTEOUSNESS AND TRUE HOLINESS
TO DO GOOD WORKS, GUIDED BY LOVE, AND EMPOWERED
BY THE HOLY SPIRIT!!!!!!**