

TO BE SAVED AND TO BE BORN AGAIN

INTRODUCTION

Central to the Christian faith, universally is the topic under consideration- “To be saved and to be born again”. The meaning of which has been misconstrued, twisted and misunderstood in several quarters in Christendom but which is foundational to our being called Christians in this world. If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do? **Ps 11:3**

We shall be looking at this topic in this literature in order to dispel the shadowy and cloudy haze spun around it by the Ministers of the People (MOPs) of the Churches as organization/business (CAO) in their doctrines on it, unto many having an erroneous understanding of it; thereby having their faith stand on the wisdom of words of men rather than on the wisdom and power of God. Many take the true understanding of this for granted unto building upon sand awaiting a great fall, rather than building upon the rock. **Mtt 7:24-27**

What exactly does it mean for one to be saved and to be born again? Are they the same thing? Or is there a difference between the two? Is it an instantaneous happening or of a divine process? Is it possible for one to experience one and not the other if they are distinct? At what point can one truly say that either has occurred in his/her life? These and so many more questions that have confronted us concerning this topic we look forward to addressing by the insights that we shall bring out in this literature by the grace of God.

Many that claim to be saved and born again today are yet manifesting the very same old nature of the old man in their life, thereby deceiving themselves with vain mouth confessions while their actions portray the contrary. They reject the very meaning of being “born again” as defined by the author of it, Jesus Christ, unto clinging unto another man’s assumed definition of it to their own deceit. Was Christ saved and born again? **Jn 3:3-8; Rom 10:9-10; Hebr 5:7-9**

If we start off wrongly in our Christian race then we shall most likely end up on the wrong side of the divide at the end of the day. So there is a pertinent need for us to examine our foundation in Christ, whether we be in the faith that is true or not. This we do humbly out of fear and trembling not out of conceit. **2 Cor 13:5; I Cor 10:12; Phil 2:12**

This literature is a sequel to another of our literature titled “The Common and Eternal Salvation” and therefore we strongly recommend your having knowledge of the contents thereof for easier flow. To be saved brings you unto the Common salvation, while to be born again prepares and qualifies you to receive the Eternal salvation at the end.

Qn: Are they the same thing? No. Is there a difference between the two? Yes.

To be saved (unto the Common salvation) does not translate automatically or instantaneously to you becoming Born again, but for you to be born again you must first be saved. To be saved precedes your getting born again. Then, when are ye saved? At what point? What does it mean to be saved? These and many more questions we shall address while bringing out the distinction between the two that are geared towards our attaining the Eternal salvation at the end as it were.

TO BE SAVED

In this literature when we say “to be saved” we mean to attain unto the Common salvation specifically. Everyone born of woman into the world is conceived in iniquity and born in sin; for all have fallen short of the glory of God due to the Adamic sin as witnessed by the Law. This sin is imputed upon all mankind irrespective of your individual righteousness or unrighteousness. We were all made carnal, sold under sin and its captivity, being made subject to physical death in this world, and therefore the need for one to be saved.

Ps 51: 5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Rom 3:9-18 (Vr.23) For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Rom 5: 12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: **Vr.13** (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. **Vr.14** Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.

Rom 7:7-14 (Vr.14) For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.

It is the Father that saves us from Adamic sin by justifying us by the blood of the Lamb and purging our conscience from the guilt of sin, and imputing His own righteousness instead upon all those that believe in Him through His Son Jesus Christ. It is a cleansing and a purging process in preparation for the new birth. **Eph 5:25-27; Rev 1:5; Hebr 1:3**

Acts 10:9-17 (Vr.14 But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean. **Vr.15** And the voice spake unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.

Rom 5:6-11 (Vr.6 For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. **Vr.8** But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. **Vr.9** Much more then, being now justified by his blood, **Vr.10** For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, **Vr.11** And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

By the works of sacrificing the blood of bulls and goats according to the Law, no man could be justified before God. It was only by the blood sacrifice of the Lamb, which the Father offered on the cross; a sacrifice preordained from the foundation of the world by which we are to be saved. **Hebr 10:1-22; I Jn 5:5-8; Rev 13:8; Rev 12:11**

Jn 1:29 Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

Hebr 9:11-28 (Vr.12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. **Vr.14** How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? **Vr.15** And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament,

Rom 3:21-25 (Vr.21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; **Vr.22** Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: **Vr.23** For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; **Vr.24** Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: **Vr.25** Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

Our salvation from Adamic sin is premised on the water and the blood by which Jesus came and poured out on the cross by which we are saved (**Jn 19:30-37**). How?

I Jn 5: 5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God? **Vr.6** This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood.

WHAT SHALL WE DO IN ORDER TO BE SAVED?

To be saved unto the Common salvation, one is required to do certain things in obedience to what the Lord hath commanded in his word. You are not saved on account of your own works of righteousness but that of God in Christ, of which you are meant to identify with by faith through the baptisms. How?

For one to be truly saved, you need to

- (i) Hear and believe with your heart the word of truth, the true gospel of salvation concerning the glorified Christ by which ye receive faith to be saved. Unfortunately many hear and believe the “another gospel” instead unto answering the “altar call” of the CAO, deceiving themselves that they have become saved and born again thereafter. **Acts 13:23-43; Acts 10:1-6, 34-44; Acts 11:13-18; Eph 1:12-13; Jn 6:68-69; Rom 10:13-17; Jam 1:21-22**
Acts 11: 14 “Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved.”
Without hearing, believing the true word of salvation in order to do the commandment therein ye cannot be said to be saved; for faith without works is dead. **Jn 2:22**
- (ii) You must obey to do the commandment contained in the word for your salvation. Which is?
- (iii) Acknowledge and confess your sins, repent and forsake them having godly sorrow that is from a contrite heart unto receiving forgiveness from God. **2 Cor 7:9-11; Acts 8:18-23; I Jn 1:8-10**
- (iv) Believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God that was slain in the flesh for your salvation and who rose again on the third day to die no more, being glorified unto the right hand of God the Father in heaven. **Lk 24:46-47**
- (v) Submit to be baptized by water in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins. **Acts 19:3-5; I Pet 3:18-21; Rom 6:4-8; Colo 2:11-13; Acts 8:35-39; Acts 22:16**

Acts 2:30-41 (Vr.37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? **Vr.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, [in order for you to be saved], ... **Vr.41** Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

Mk 16: 15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. **Vr.16** He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Acts 16:25-34 (Vr.30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? **Vr.31** And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. **Vr.32** And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. **Vr.33** And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.

The CAO teaches that all a sinner needs to do in order to be saved (and be born again) is to accept Jesus Christ as his Lord and Saviour and confess same with his mouth by answering an altar call; without being buried with Christ in baptism. They solely support this assertion by their own interpretation of Paul's teaching as found in **Rom 10:9-10**. But the question is "Is this how Paul himself got saved and born again?". No. Then how did Paul get saved and born again?

Acts 9:3-20 (Vr.6 And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do. **Vr.17** And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost [*baptism with the Spirit*]. **Vr.18** And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized [*baptism with water*].

Acts 22:6-16 (Vr.10 And I said, What shall I do, Lord? [*Paul confessed Jesus as his Lord but did not stop there*] And the Lord said unto me, Arise, and go into Damascus; and there it shall be told thee of all things which are appointed for thee to do. **Vr.14** And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth. **Vr.15** For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard. **Vr.16** And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

Hear the Word of salvation → receive Faith → Believe in Christ → have Godly sorrow → Repentance → Forgiveness → Baptism in water for Remission of sins

WHAT DID THE MASTER HAVE TO SAY?

Jesus Christ our Master came preaching the gospel of salvation even as John the Baptist, his predecessor and forerunner did – "Repent ye; for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" – **Mtt 3:1-6; Mtt 4:12-17**

But the difference was that John's message was focused majorly on directing men to receive the Common salvation through Jesus Christ (baptism of repentance for the remission of sins), while Christ took the message further unto all that come and believe in him receiving the Eternal salvation ultimately as it were. It is Christ that is able to save to the uttermost

(eternally) all they that come unto God for the Common salvation through him. **Hebr 7:24-26; Acts 19:3-6; Acts 13:23-26; Lk 3:2-18; Lk 1:76-77**

John came baptizing with water in order to make manifest unto the world the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world required for the Common salvation to become available and also the Son of God who baptizeth with the Holy Ghost for the attainment of the Eternal salvation at the end. **Mtt 3:7-12; Jn 3:34-36**

Jn 1: 29-33 (Vr.29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world [*required for men to be saved*]. **Vr.31** And I knew him not: but that he should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water. **Vr.32** And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. **Vr.33** And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost [*required for those that get saved to become born again*].

We shall venture to differentiate and extract what the Master had to say prophetically in his teachings on “to be saved” as distinguished from “to be born again” as much as possible. Repentance and baptism in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins is required for one to be saved and this only became possible after the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and not before. Jesus came preaching under the Law dispensation and no one could be justified and saved while under the Law as it were. Christ had to give himself to be crucified before the Church could be birthed and men made members of the body of Christ thereafter without which no man could be saved. **Gal 4:4-5; Gal 2:16; Acts 2:37-41; Mtt 21:28-32**

Lk 18:9-14 (Vr.10 Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. **Vr.13** And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. **Vr.14** I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Mtt 9:10-13 (Vr.12 But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. **Vr.13** But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Lk 19:1-10 (Vr.8 And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold. **Vr.9** And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham. **Vr.10** For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

Lk 15:1-10,11-32 (Vr.6 And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost. **Vr.7** I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance. **Vr.10** Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

Lk 24:44-47 (Vr.46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: **Vr.47** And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

Christ came to call sinners to repentance at his first advent, but the Common salvation truly became possible by the coming of the Holy Ghost, after the death and resurrection of Jesus. Then was the preaching of repentance and remission of sins among all nations authorized by the Lord to begin. The Spirit of truth convicts men of sin bringing about godly sorrow that worketh repentance unto salvation. **Jn 16:7-13; Acts 1:8; 2 Cor 7:9-11; Acts 2:37-38**

Lk 13:1-5 (Vr.4 Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem? **Vr.5** I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

TO BE BORN AGAIN

As always, the strategy of the enemy of our soul is to establish false foundations through twisting, changing and confusing of the fundamental truths of the gospel for men to believe a lie instead. So he hath also done in the teaching of the concept of “born again” in Christendom today through the doctrines of the CAO. Many have been deceived to believe that when they answer the “altar call” of the CAO that they instantaneously became saved and born again as certified by the MOPs thereof. But is this true? Is this what Christ taught? Or was it what his apostles practiced after his death in fulfilling the Great commission mandate while preaching the true gospel? NO.

The doctrine of becoming born again (B.A.) was first explicitly taught by Jesus Christ as captured in his gospel in **Jn 3:3-8** and his apostles preached it in the gospel to all nations (**Acts 2:37-41; Mk 16:15-18**) though the concept have always been there from the beginning of the world. This was way before Paul came into the picture. It was also by the adherence of this same doctrine that Saul himself was converted, saved and became B.A. being known as Paul subsequently.

Unfortunately, the CAO MOPs have willingly ignored Christ’s foundational teaching on being B.A. in order to establish their own definition through their erroneous interpretation of Paul’s

statement in **Rom 10:9-10**. By this they have carved out an “Altar call” ritual in their “Temple worship” system by which they certify men automatically saved and B.A. based on a mere mouth confession. The true understanding of the concept of B.A. remains a mystery to the CAO as they tenaciously cling unto the wisdom of men concerning its teaching. **Mtt 13:9-17; Mtt 23:12-16**

We shall run to the Master to learn from him as usual and see the example that he set for us to follow and which his apostles adhered to in the ministration of the gospel to the world. Jesus spoke about how to become born again as an image, that is, while the saint is still having a terrestrial body on earth (still in the flesh) and also as the true B.A. which is spiritual and heavenly, the real deal (when the saint must have put on a celestial body), but many are ignorant and blind to the understanding of the latter even as they are of the former.

We shall explain each of this born again status as much as we can because we shall be unveiling mysteries for the spiritually minded to key into. Many take for granted the understanding of what to be born again really implies to their own ignorance which ought not to be so.

From the time that God condemned Man to the suffering of death in this world there became the need for Man to be born again in order to live eternally even as God had created and purposed for him to be from the initial. For this to be accomplished the Lamb of God needed to be slain as a sacrifice and to be made alive again as the pathway for this rebirth for all that come to God through Christ Jesus and who die in him. **Gen 3:17-19; Rev 13:8; I Thess 4:13-14**

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE TRULY BORN AGAIN?

Truly, for one to be born a second time he has to die first and then experience a rebirth as a new creature, a spiritual being. How? by being raised from the dead unto life by the power of His resurrection never to die again. You cannot be born twice when you have not died once. That was why Nicodemus was perplexed and queried whether one would need to enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born. **Jn 3:3-4**

Jn 3: 3-13 (Vr.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. **Vr.4** Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? [*What is the process?*]**Vr.6** That which is born of the flesh [*born of woman*] is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit [*born of God*] is spirit [*when shall this truly be?*]. **Vr.7** Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. **Vr.8** The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit. **Vr.12** If I have told you earthly things [*B.A. as an image*], and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things [*B.A. as the true*]?)

I Cor 15:35-54 (Vr.36 Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die: **Vr.40** There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. **Vr.42** So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: **Vr.44** It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. **Vr.48** As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. **Vr.49** And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. **Vr.50** Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God [*you have to be born again as the true for you to inherit and enter*]; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

The true B.A. requires for the Just to first die physically in the flesh, that is return to the ground, mother earth, from whence he was taken before he can then be resurrected in the spirit (at the 1st Resurrection- the resurrection of the Just) to live again eternally having a celestial body- that which is born of the flesh is flesh and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. That is why it is appointed unto man once to die and after death judgment in order to determine whether he would be born again to life everlasting in the kingdom of God or to die eternally in the lake of fire, being the second death.

It is at the resurrection on the last day that we truly become born of the Spirit. The children of the resurrection are the true children of God, those that are truly B.A., having become as the angels and never to die again. Such in that true B.A. state shall be able to see God the Father at that time. **Rom 8:11; Hebr 9:27; I Tim 6:14-16; Jn 16:25-27; Mtt 18:10**

Jn 5:21-29 (Vr.27 And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man. **Vr.28** Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, **Vr.29** And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life [*becoming truly B.A.*]; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation [*the second death*].

Lk 20:33-38 (Vr.35 But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage: **Vr.36** Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection [*the true B.A.*].

Everyone that comes to Christ must be ready to die in order to live; for that is the kingdom principle which is contrary to this world's own. Whosoever would want to save his life in this world would lose it. There is no good thing in the flesh. The flesh profiteth nothing rather it is in the Spirit that life is found and that is why compulsorily all those that come to Christ must be born again (B.A.). **Jn 12:25-26; Jn 6:63; Rom 7:18; Mtt 16:24-26**

TRUE BORN AGAIN AS EXAMPLIFIED BY CHRIST

Our Master, Jesus Christ, is our perfect example and he demonstrated what it meant to be truly born again for us to follow. He also taught it. How? He is the firstfruit from the dead, being the first to become born again truly as it were.

Jn 12:23-25 (Vr.24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

Jn 2:18-22 (Vr.19 Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. **Vr.22** When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said.

Jn 8: 28 Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he,

Jn 16:16-22 (Vr.16 A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me, because I go to the Father. **Vr.21** A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world. **Vr.22** And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.

Lk 24:36-46 (Vr.36 And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. **Vr.37** But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit. **Vr.39** Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have [*rather he had a celestial/spiritual body as a true B.A. ought to have- a resurrected and glorified body*]. **Vr.40** And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet. **Vr.46** And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

Christ being the first begotten from the dead is the first to be truly B.A. and we shall follow suit from the last day. **Rom 6:3-11**

I Cor 15:12-23 (Vr.20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. **Vr.21** For since by man came death [*being born of the flesh*], by man came also the resurrection of the dead [*being born of the Spirit*]. **Vr.22** For as in Adam all die [*in the flesh*], even so in Christ shall all be made alive [*by the Spirit unto being B.A.*]. **Vr.23** But every man in

his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming [*on the last day at his appearing*].

Rom 8: 11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

Rev 1: 5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead [*the first to be truly B.A.*],

Acts 13: 33 God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.

Vr.34 And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, now no more to return to corruption [*that is how Christ became truly B.A.*],

We shall become B.A. as the true as we partake of the first Resurrection at the last day. It is then that we shall become new creatures indeed being born of the Spirit, having a new celestial body and God making all things new from thence.

Rev 20:4-8 (Vr.4 and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. **Vr.6** Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

Rev 21:1-7 (Vr.4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. **Vr.5** And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE B.A. AS AN IMAGE?

As long as we are yet in the flesh in this world we can only attain unto the "image born again" status. Why? Because we are yet subject to die physically in this body being born of the flesh. So in order to stimulate or symbolize our death while still alive physically in the flesh, we need to submit to being buried with Christ in baptism. This is how as an image we die to the flesh in order to live according to the Spirit unto the Lord in this world; for he that is dead is freed from sin.

As we had opined before, you must die in order to live for you to be said to be born again. And as the image B.A., this death is accomplished or typified through water baptism and the resurrection by the Spirit baptism. And that we can get from Christ's teaching in

Jn 3: 3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again [*How?*], he cannot see the kingdom of God. **Vr.4** Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? **Vr.5** Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water [*in baptism*] and of the Spirit [*also in baptism*], he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. **Vr.7** Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again [*ye must die to sin and live unto righteousness*].

Colo 2:11-14 (Vr.12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. **Vr.13** And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

Rom 6:1-11 (Vr.4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. **Vr.5** For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: **Vr.7** For he that is dead is freed from sin. **Vr.8** Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him [*as the true B.A. at his appearing*]: **Vr.11** Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Vr.13** Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead [*being born again as an image*], and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

We are B.A. as an image on earth by being begotten unto a lively hope and that is how it is that we are saved by hope. We are begotten by the word of this truth currently in anticipation of being clothed with the true B.A. status at the end. Those that are B.A. as an image have this hope in them presently. **I Jn 3:1-3; Rom 5:1-2; Colo 1:27**

I Pet 1:3-5,23-25 (Vr.3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **Vr.23** Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

Rom 8:24-25 (Vr.24 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?

Those that receive of the firstfruits of the Spirit through the Holy Ghost baptism are born again as an image on earth being the image sons/children of God. These are said to be new creatures in Christ as an image being still in this flesh until they become truly new creatures indeed in the spirit at the resurrection from the dead. **Rev 21:4-5; I Cor 13:9-12; I Jn 3:1-3**

Rom 8: 8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God [*that is why ye must be B.A. as an image*]. **Vr.9** But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you [*having become B.A. as an image*]. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his [*he is not B.A.*]. **Vr.14** For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. **Vr.23** And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit [*who are image B.A.*], even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body [*when we shall experience the true B.A. state*].

2 Cor 5: 16-17 (Vr.16 Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more. **Vr.17** Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature [*as an image presently*]: old things [*of the sinful nature*] are passed away; behold, all things [*that is of righteousness*] are become new.

You have to be dead to the Law in order for you to be B.A. unto the body of Christ. Christ came under the Law and was crucified according to the dictates of the Law in order to set us free as new creatures (B.A.) unto the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus. No one can be B.A. under the law of sin and death, but rather under the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus, which came into effect after the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and the coming of the Holy Ghost and power. **Rom 8:1-4; Gal 3:10-14; Jn 16:7-11; Jn 7:37-39; Jn 2:19-22**

Rom 7:1-7 (Vr.1 Know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth? **Vr.2** For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband.**Vr.3** So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man. **Vr.4** Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God. **Vr.5** For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death. **Vr.6** But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter.

Gal 4:3-7 (Vr.4 But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, **Vr.5** To redeem them that were under the law, that we might

receive the adoption of sons [*as B.A.*]. **Vr.6** And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts [*that is how you become B.A.*], crying, Abba, Father.

Gal 2: 19 For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God. **Vr.20** I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me [*this is how we live on earth as the image B.A. presently*].

The Apostles of Christ carried out this B.A. mandate in their ministration of the gospel to men according to the Great commission of the Master to them. Paul underwent the same experience at his own time of conversion. **Acts 9:17-18; Acts 2:37-41; Acts 10:34-48; Acts 8:12-17; Acts 1:2-9; Mk 16:15-20**

Acts 19:1-7 (Vr.2 He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed [*and were saved*]? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. **Vr.3** And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. **Vr.4** Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. **Vr.5** When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **Vr.6** And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

IMAGE BORN AGAIN AS EXAMPLIFIED BY CHRIST

Jesus Christ showed us example to follow of how we were to be born again as an image in this world even as he taught us in his doctrine. How? by the process he went through in order to fulfill all righteousness, the righteousness that exceeds that of the Pharisees without which no man can enter into the kingdom of God.

Jn 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.

Mtt 5:20 For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Mtt 3:13-17 (Vr.13 Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. **Vr.14** But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? **Vr.15** And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him. **Vr.16** And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

Our Master was baptized with water and with the Spirit as example for attaining unto the image B.A. status on earth. He requires all those that believe in him unto salvation to also be baptized with water by those that he hath sent and for he himself to baptize us with the Holy Ghost. **Mtt 3:11; Mk 16:15-16; Jn 20:19-23; Acts 11:15-17**

Eph 1:6-14 (Vr.13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed [*and were saved*], ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

John the Baptist came in the way of righteousness baptizing with water and Christ also came in the way of righteousness to baptize us that believe with the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of righteousness. Without receiving of the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of Christ no man can claim to be B.A. **Mtt 21:32; Rom 8:9; Jn 4:10,14; Jn 16:7-11; 2 Pet 2:20-21**

Jn 7:37-39 (Vr.38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. **Vr.39** (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive [*in order to become B.A.*]: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

Christ needed to taste of death for all mankind, so that those that believe in him and are B.A. as an image in this world can be resurrected from the dead to live everlasting with him in the world to come. As Christ lives so shall we live being B.A. as the true then. **Hebr 2:9-10; Hebr 10:5-10; Jn 14:19-20; I Jn 3:2**

Acts 26:22-23 (Vr.23 That Christ should suffer, and that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles.

As we are saved by hope in Christ as the image B.A. currently, Jesus while in the world then, had also this hope in God to save him from the death that he was to undergo by crucifixion. **Hebr 12:1-3; Hebr 5:5-10; Jn 12:27-33**

TO BE BORN AGAIN MEANS TO BE QUICKENED

For so long the revelation of the knowledge of being born again hath been hidden in ages past being a mystery, but in this our days for those that would receive it, it has been revealed by the Spirit of truth, that giveth us understanding of all that Christ taught and did on earth.

For a man to become B.A. whether as an image and/or as the true, he compulsorily needs to be quickened and for you to be quickened you must die first. To be quickened means to be made alive again, that is, to be born again.

I Cor 15:35-38 (Vr.36 Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die:

For one to attain unto the status of an image B.A. on earth you have to be saved and quickened, having been dead in trespasses and sins; and then receive power over sin by the Spirit. **Rom 6:11-22; Rom 8:1-4**

Eph 2:1-6 (Vr.1 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; **Vr.5** Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)
Vr.6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

Colo 2:11-13 (Vr.12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. **Vr.13** And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

Jn 1:11-13 (Vr.12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: **Vr.13** Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

In order to become a true B.A. your mortal, corruptible body has to be quickened from the grave and receive power over the second death having been loosed from the pangs of physical death by the power of his resurrection. That is how you get truly born of the Spirit of God and no longer born of blood, or of the will of the flesh, nor the will of man. For you to be born of God it has to be according to the will of God and not that of man any longer. Such can no longer commit sin as the true B.A. as it were. **Rev 20:4-6; Rev 2:10-11; Jn 1:13; I Jn 3:9; I Jn 5:18**

I Cor 15:50-57 (Vr.53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. **Vr.54** So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. **Vr.55** O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? **Vr.56** The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. **Vr.57** But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

I Pet 3: 18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

It is only God the Father that hath power to quicken a man and He has also given such authority to the Son because he is the Son of man unto whom judgment has been committed unto his hands.

Jn 5:17-29 (Vr.21 For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will. **Vr.26** For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the

Son to have life in himself; **Vr.27** And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man.

I Cor 15: 45 the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.

Jn 6: 38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. **Vr.39** And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. **Vr.40** And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

CONCLUSION

The central theme of the gospel of salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ is premised on his death and resurrection and its impact on those that come to believe in God through the glorified Christ. Therefore the process of becoming saved and born again is tied fundamentally to death and resurrection (the resurrection of the dead), of which understanding we have related with throughout in this literature without ambiguity. Before Christ died and resurrected, nobody was saved unto the Common salvation nor became born again. Unfortunately, this understanding is clouded and lacking in clarity in the doctrines of the CAO on such topics and they do not hold unto this foundational truth regrettably.

One cannot be said to be truly saved and born again being ignorant of this truth as it were. For it is by the understanding of the truth that one is truly made free not the ignorance of it. For ignorance is that which keeps men captive and bound captive in sin. It is by the truth and the love of it that we are saved and set free from the lies of the Another gospel. You cannot say you know God and His Christ without knowing and understanding the truth as it were. Those that refuse the truth are invariably found believing the lie instead. **I Jn 2:21; 2 Pet 2:18-22; I Jn 4:7; Jn 17:2-3; I Jn 5:20**

I Tim 2:3-6 (Vr.4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

Jn 8:30-36 (Vr.32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Jn 14: 1 ye believe in God, believe also in me. **Vr.6** Jesus saith unto him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

2 Thess 2:7-12 (Vr.10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. **Vr.11** And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:

As we have said, you cannot be born twice when you have not died once; for you to be born a second time you must die first and then experience a rebirth by reason of being raised from the dead by the power of his resurrection.

So when a man receives the word of faith of the true gospel of salvation, it is required of him to repent unto God and have faith toward Christ by identifying with the death of Christ through water baptism for the remission of his sins; and also partake of the Spirit baptism for quickening from death in sin in order to experience the resurrection unto life, the quickening of his mortal body at the end. One that is B.A. must have the witness of the Spirit in him. You cannot be B.A. without receiving the Spirit of adoption, the Spirit of Christ through baptism. **Rom 8:9,11,14-16; I Jn 5:9-12**

Mtt 12:43-45 (Vr.43 When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man [*and he is saved*], he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. **Vr.44** Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished [*not full of the Holy Spirit as becoming B.A.*]. **Vr.45** Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.

Lk 5:36-39 (Vr.37 And no man putteth new wine into old bottles; else the new wine will burst the bottles, and be spilled, and the bottles shall perish. **Vr.38** But new wine must be put into new bottles; and both are preserved [*it is those that are cleansed, justified and saved that receive the Spirit baptism in order to become B.A.*].

To be saved does not translate automatically to your becoming born again (B.A.), as the CAO MOPs make it out to be today. But for you to be born again you must first be saved (cleansed) and then be baptized with the Holy Ghost and with fire. You can be saved but not B.A., but you cannot be B.A. without first being saved as a divine rule. Also you can be saved unto the Common salvation and B.A. as an image, but make a shipwreck of your faith, thereby not enduring till the end unto obtaining the Eternal salvation as a true B.A. **Acts 2:37-38; Jude 1:3-5; Hebr 6:4-6; Mtt 24:13; 2 Tim 2:18-19; Mtt 13:18-23; Lk 9:62**

Eph 1:12-13 (Vr.13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed [*and were saved*], ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

To answer an altar call does not mean that you are now saved and does not translate to your having received the promised Holy Ghost instantaneously. You need to be baptized by Christ in order to receive the Spirit after you have been saved as the Lord willeth. This is God's seal of ownership upon you and witness that you are born again. If any man have not the Spirit of Christ gotten through baptism, he is none of his. **Acts 8:9-24; Acts 18:24-28; Acts 19:1-7; Eph 1:12-14; Rom 8:9,11**

Many that are saved seem to have come unto knowledge of the truth, but yet lack spiritual understanding or revelation of that knowledge as one that ought to be B.A. It is those that are B.A. that have spiritual understanding unto producing much fruit of the Spirit in their Christian walk on earth. They walk not after the flesh any longer but after the Spirit majorly. They are more spiritually minded than carnally minded. **Mtt 13:18-23; Mtt 7:20-27; Jn 15:8,14-16; Rom 8:5-6,12-16; I Cor 2:12-13**

It is those that are B.A. that have received the kingdom of God within them as an image and shall enter into the kingdom of God as the true at the second appearing of our Lord as it were. They also manifest the gifts of the Spirit even as the Spirit willeth, working in and through them. **Lk 17:20-21; Acts 1:1-8; Mtt 12:25-28; I Cor 12:4-11**

It is those that are B.A. that are qualified to preach the gospel of the kingdom truthfully and not just any believer that claims to be saved but not yet B.A.; for you cannot give what you do not have, neither can you preach a truth that you have not received. Many of the CAO MOPs today are preaching the another gospel of "bread and fish" majorly as their gospel truth. You need to receive the Spirit of truth indwelling in order to preach and teach the truth wholly. **Rom 14:17-19; Rom 5:1-5; I Jn 4:4-6; Jn 15:26-27; Lk 24:45-49; Jn 8:32**

As always there is so much more concerning being saved and being born again than we cannot cover in this literature. We believe God for sequels on this in the future. Till then may you consider that which is written in this one and may the Lord grant thee understanding thereof.

FEEDBACK

Thank you for taking time to read this literature. If you have been blessed by it and wish to send comments, make enquiries or get access to various other literatures that the author has put out, then you can contact us via email info@devoutmenministry.com or send SMS to 08091764495 or visit us @ www.devoutmenministry.com