

# What is a Regenerated church membership

**A regenerated person is not a person that is saved, but one who lives as one who is saved from sin. Regeneration is mentioned only two times in scripture. In particular, regeneration in the reign of Christ. A regenerated individual is one living morally pure today as if he were living in the future in during the reign of Christ.**

Mat 19:28-30 And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the **regeneration** when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. (29) And **every one that hath forsaken** houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life. (30) But many *that are* first shall be last; and the last *shall be* first.

Tit 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing **of regeneration**, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

**Regenerate:** verb (used with object) to effect a complete moral reform. To re-create, reconstitute, or makeover, especially in a better form or condition. to revive or produce anew; bring in to existence again.

**Degenerate:** degenerate state or character. the process of degenerating; decline. degenerate behavior, especially behavior considered sexually deviant.

## **The three levels in regard to regeneration**

**The scriptures teach in a regenerated membership. Not just being a child of God but one who lives a godly life.**

1Ti 4:8 For bodily exercise profiteth little: but **godliness** is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

2Pe 1:3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that *pertain* unto **life and godliness**, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

2Pe 3:11 *Seeing* then *that* all these things shall be dissolved, what manner *of persons* ought ye to be in *all* **holy conversation and godliness**,

Tit 2:11-15 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, (12) Teaching us that, **denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;** (13) Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; (14) Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. (15) These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.

- 1. Regeneration – Those who live according to the hope that is in them as sitting beside Christ ruling with him. This is how it is accomplished today in us. As an example; the moral law says not to murder, but grace requires that we not hate. The moral law requires one not to commit adultery but grace requires is not to lust within.**
- 2. Base line law of morality – Those who live in morality and are governed by penalty of law if broken.**
- 3. Degeneration – Those who have no regard for morality or the penalty that is imposed upon those who break the law.**

**{This is why church membership by way of water baptism requires repentance.}**

Mar 1:4 John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the **baptism of repentance** for the remission of sins.

Act 26:20 But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and *then* to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, **and do works meet for repentance**.

## **Base Line Laws of nature for all society**

### **The Law of Nature is written in our hearts**

Rom 2:14-15 For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, **do by nature** the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: (15) Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and *their* thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)

The law of nature is that which God, the sovereign of the universe, has prescribed to all men, not by any formal promulgation, but by the internal dictate of reason alone. It is discovered by a just consideration of the agreeableness or disagreeableness of human actions to the nature of man; and it comprehends all the duties which we owe either to the Supreme Being, to ourselves, or to our neighbors; as reverence to God, self-defense, temperance, honor to our parents, benevolence to all, a strict adherence to our engagements, gratitude, and the like. The primitive laws of nature may be reduced to six, namely:

1. Reason.
2. Self-love.
3. The attraction of the opposite sexes to each other.
4. The tenderness of parents towards their children.
5. The religious sentiment.
6. Sociability.

This is the base line of morality that is written in the heart of man. When a person descends below these minimums, he is considered degenerated. When he excels above the moral base line, he is regenerated.

### **The Law is the moral base line**

Mat 5:27-28 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: (28) But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

### **Nature is referring to the law of God that is written in our hearts**

Rom 1:26 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did **change the natural** use into that which is **against nature**:

Rom 2:14 For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, **do by nature** the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:

1Co 11:14 Doth not **even nature itself teach** you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?

### **Example of degeneration in the scriptures**

1Co 5:1-13 It is reported commonly *that there is* **fornication among you**, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife. (2) And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you. (3) For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, *concerning* him that hath so done this deed, (4) In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, (5) To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. (6) Your glorying *is* not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? (7) Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: (8) Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened *bread* of sincerity and truth. (9) I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators: (10) Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world. (11) But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat. (12) For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within? (13) But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore **put away from among yourselves that wicked person**.

Because this man became degenerated he was no longer able to remain a member of the church at Corinth.