



Chapter 3

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3



So that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. 1 Pet. 2:12

4



And the Award Goes to...
For excellence in Leadership, Character and
Service

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Government is of God

Romans 13:1-2 “Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God. Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.”

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Respect Both the Office and the Occupant

- **1 Peter 2:17**—“Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.
- **Exodus 22:25**—“you shall not curse God, nor curse a ruler of your people.

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- **Eph. 4:1-2** “I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness.”
- **Eph. 2:10** “For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared before hand so that we would walk in them.”
- **Gal. 6:10** “So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.”

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This is Us Before Christ

- **Foolish** "But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised." **1 Cor. 2:14**
- **Disobedient** "They profess to know God, but by their deeds they deny Him, being detestable and disobedient and worthless for any good deed." **Titus 1:16**
- **Deceived** "For you were like sheep gone astray..." **1 Pet. 2:25**
- **Enslaved to various lusts and pleasures** "...everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin." **Jn. 8:24**
- "...whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved. **2 Pet. 2:19b**

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This is Us Before Christ

- **Malicious** "Let all bitterness and wrath and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice." **Eph. 4:31**
- **Envious** "A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones." **Prov. 14:30**
- **Hateful/Hated** "If someone says I love God and hates his brother; he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen." **1Jn. 4:20**

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Saved, Because of God's...

- **Kindness** "[God] Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men." **Lk. 6:35**
- "...the Kindness of God leads you to repentance." **Rom. 2:4**
- **Love** "For God so **loved the world** that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him, shall not perish, but have eternal life." **Jn. 3:16**
- "...God demonstrates His love for us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." **Rom. 5:8**
- **Mercy** "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." **Rom. 6:23**

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The Washing of Regeneration

- **Regeneration:** Greek—Paling/genesia—Paling"again"-genesia/"birth" It literally means regenerated or **Born Again**.
An instantaneous event where God imparts new life, the life of God, the nature of God, to the person who trusts Jesus Christ as his Savior.
- **Jn. 3:3** "...unless one is **born again** he cannot enter the Kingdom of God."
- **Jn. 3:5** "...born of **water and the Spirit** he cannot enter the Kingdom of God."
- **1Pet. 1:23** "For you have been **born again** not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, **through the living and enduring word of God.**"

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- **Ezek. 36:25-26** "Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a new heart."
- **AGENT:** The Holy Spirit is the agent in regeneration.
- **INSTRUMENT:** The Word of God is His instrument.

The Spirit always works in conjunction with the Word of God.

- **Eph. 5:26** "...having cleansed her by the washing of water with the Word."

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The Renewal of the Holy Spirit

- **2 Cor. 5:17** "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, **the new has come.**"
- **2 Cor. 4:16** "So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our **inner self is being renewed day by day.**"
- **Rom. 12:2** "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the **renewing of your mind.** Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-his good, pleasing and perfect will."

The Holy Spirit produces new life in the believer through regeneration. He convicts us 1st of sin and then guides us into truth. He gives us a new nature. He teaches us through God's Word and helps us remember words and works of Jesus so that they may be applied to our life.

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Results

- **Justified** Judicial act of God whereby He declares a believing sinner righteous (not guilty) and acceptable to Him because Christ paid for his sins on the cross.
- **Heirs 1 Pet. 1:4** "describes this inheritance further, saying that we have been born again "into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you."
- **1 Cor 2:9** "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love Him."
- **Hope of Eternal Life Jn. 10:28** "I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand."

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Lessons

1. **RESPECT IS A REFLECTION OF A BELIEVERS CHARACTER.** Vv. 1,2
2. **GOOD DEEDS ARE A REFLECTION OF CHRIST IN US.** Vv. 1
3. **"THERE BUT FOR THE GRACE OF GOD..."** Vv. 3, 5; Eph. 2:8
4. **THE HOLY SPIRIT LEADS US INTO ALL TRUTH.** Vs. 5,10
 "An argument may remove doubt, but only the Holy Spirit can convict of truth." Ravi Zacharias
5. **BELIEVERS ARE LOVED WITH AN EVERLASTING LOVE.** Vs. 4; Jer. 31:3; Rom. 2:4

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