

1 Peter 1:22-25

Purification produces obedience, obedience produces purification

- We can't obey God until we have been born again which begins the process of purification of our souls.
- Once we are born again, we begin to have obedience to the God which then in return continues to purify our souls more.
- The more obedience we have, the more purified our souls become and the more purified our souls become, the more obedience we will have.
- Purification is not just unto obedience, but also by obedience.
- Knowing the Word of God is not enough, there has to be obedience.
 - **James 1:22** But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.
 - **John 14:15** If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.
 - **Luke 6:46-49** "Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? ⁴⁷ Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and ^[ac]acts on them, I will show you whom he is like: ⁴⁸ he is like a man building a house, who ^[ad]dug deep and laid a foundation on the rock; and when a flood occurred, the ^[ae]torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. ⁴⁹ But the one who has heard and has not acted *accordingly*, is like a man who built a house on the ground without any foundation; and the ^[af]torrent burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great."

Love for the brethren with a pure heart

- As a result of regenerate heart that has been purified, we know have love for the brethren in Christ. We are to live in unity and to protect each other, pray for each other, and love each other from a pure heart.
- This love for the brethren is only brought about by the working of the Holy Spirit in our spiritual rebirth.
- We are to give each other the judgment of charity.
 - **John 13:34-35** ^A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. ³⁵ By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."
 - **1 John 3:10** By this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious: ^[a] anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother.
 - **1 John 3:14-18** We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death. ¹⁵ Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer; and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. ¹⁶ We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we

ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. ¹⁷ But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his ^[a]heart ^[b]against him, how does the love of God abide in him? ¹⁸ Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.

- **Romans 12:10** Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; ^[a]give preference to one another in honor;
- **Hebrews 13:1** Let love of the brethren continue.

Born again through imperishable seed

We are born again by the mercy of God the Father by the work of the Holy Spirit. Being born again is a unilateral sovereign act of God in which the Spirit invades our souls, takes out the heart of stone, puts in a heart of flesh, changes the disposition of minds/wills/hearts to have affection for the Lord. Being born again is of the Spirit and not of the flesh and no human can bring about from their natural the supernatural work of God.

- In our natural birth we are born of seed that perishes. In our spiritual birth we are born of seed that is imperishable, through the living and enduring Word of God.

Parable of the Sower (seed)-**Luke 8:4-15**

- In this parable, the seed is the Word of God.
- The seed (the word of God) is sown on many different soils, but only takes root in one soil (heart).
- The Word of God (seed) takes root and grows in the soil that has been tilled and cultivated to receive the seed. The soil has been made ready to receive the seed (the word of God) by God through the act of regeneration.
- Those whom God regenerates will then receive the Gospel and His Word with gladness and then confess Jesus is Lord and believe with their heart God raised Him from the dead and be saved.
- God uses the Word of God as an instrument to bring about our salvation, but the word will never take root or grow in any soil except that which has been prepared by God via regeneration.
 - **1 Thessalonians 2:13** For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted *it* not *as* the word of men, but *for* what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.
 - **Romans 10:17** So faith *comes* from hearing, and hearing by the word ^[a]of Christ.

The Immutability of God's Word.

There are two things that will never fade:

1.) The inheritance of the believer (1 Peter 1:4)

2.) God's Word

- We change, we fail, we are fleeting. However, the Word of God never fails or changes because our God never fails or changes! He is immutable and His Word is immutable.
- We called to renew our mind in the immutable word of God and with every second of our lives and every ounce of our being place our trust in His Word!

Peter quotes Isaiah 40

- **Isaiah 40:1-9** "Comfort, O comfort My people," says your God. ²"Speak ^[a]kindly to Jerusalem; And call out to her, that her ^[b]warfare has ended, That her ^[c]iniquity has been removed, That she has received of the LORD's hand Double for all her sins." ³A voice ^[d]is calling, "Clear the way for the LORD in the wilderness; Make smooth in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴"Let every valley be lifted up, And every mountain and hill be made low; And let the rough ground become a plain, And the rugged terrain a broad valley; ⁵^[e]Then the glory of the LORD will be revealed, And all flesh will see *it* together; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken." ⁶A voice says, "Call out." Then ^[f]he answered, "What shall I call out?" All flesh is grass, and all its ^[g]loveliness is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades, ^[h]When the breath of the LORD blows upon it; Surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever. ⁹Get yourself up on a high mountain, O Zion, bearer of good news, Lift up your voice mightily, O Jerusalem, bearer of good news; Lift *it* up, do not fear. Say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"
- **Matthew 24:35** Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away.

The Word that was preached to you

The Gospel is the power of God unto to salvation (**Romans 1:17**)

The call of the Gospel rings out across the planet, but the life changing Word of God and His Gospel will only take root in the cultivated soul of His elect.

Since we don't know who the elect are we evangelize like everyone we meet is and all that hear the Gospel and believe with a sincere heart of true contrite repentance, will find a perfect Savior!

If you are a Christian, then know that prior to you hearing and believing the Word of God, God Himself was preparing the soil of your soul so that that the truth of His Word would be the greatest news ever!