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**How It Changes Everything!**

## desert breeze community church

### Acts 9:32-10:48 “Born Again”

It is called regeneration, conversion or being born again. In John 3 Jesus said to a very moral highly respected religious leader – you cannot SEE or ENTER the Kingdom of God unless you are born again. If you’re born once you’ll die twice (2<sup>nd</sup> death Rev. 21:8) but if you’re born twice you’ll die once. What does it mean to be born again? Are you born again?

#### **What Does It Mean To Be Born Again?**

##### Acts 9:32-43

- Jesus Christ is alive & living in you today. (2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 2:20; John 14:12)

##### Acts 10:1-8

- Comes through God’s initiative. (Rom. 1 Creation, 2 Conscience, 3 Commandments, 4 Christ; John 6:44)
- It is the opposite & opposes religion. (Luke 15)  
Religion = I obey therefore I’m accepted by God.  
Gospel = I’m accepted by God through what Christ has done therefore I obey.

##### Acts 10:9-35

- It is based on God’s unmerited favor (Grace). (James 2:1-4; Eph. 2:8-9; 2Cor.8:9, 9:8)  
In all Religions the good are in & the bad are out. In Christianity the humble are in & the proud are out. Which one is more inclusive?

##### Acts 10:36-43

- Comes through the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. (Rom. 1:16) You can accept or reject Christ out of lazy or proud bias but a careful look at His Majesty will prove to be evidential (historical/factual) & irresistible.

### Acts 10:44-48

- It is a psychological and sociological transformation.  
Psychological = “Extolling (praising) God”. Until God’s love becomes the ultimate prize of your life you haven’t really changed.  
Sociological = “Speaking in tongues”. This is both a manifestation of the Holy Spirit and a metaphor as in Acts 2 that all races and cultures matter to God.



# Growing

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- 1) The book of Acts is one case study after another of people who encountered the risen Christ & were never the same. It is called conversion, regeneration or being born again. What did Jesus say to a very highly respected moral religious leader in John 3:3, 5&10? Do you think most people understand what it means?
  
- 2) Read Acts 9:32-43. How do these verses show us that Jesus Christ was alive & living in Peter? How do these verses relate (2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 2:20; John 14:12)? What difference would it make in your life today if you really believed that Jesus is alive & living in you?
  
- 3) Read Acts 10:1-8. What does it mean that being born again comes through God's initiative & how is this seen in Cornelius (John 6:44)? How is being born again opposite & opposes religion?
  
- 4) Read Acts 10:9-35. What does Peter mean when he says God shows no partiality in Acts 10:34-35? How is James 2:1-4 an illustration of partiality? How do these verses relate? (Eph. 2:8-9; 2Cor.8:9, 9:8)
  
- 5) Read Acts 10:36-43. Being born again comes through the preaching of the Gospel. What was Peter's gospel message? Read Acts 10:44-48. Being born again brings (v46) psychological (extolling God) & sociological (speaking in tongues) transformation. Why is it that you haven't really changed until God's love becomes the ultimate prize of your