

*"We know that whosoever is **born of God** sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not." 1John 5:18 KJV*



Mr. Smith doesn't have to try to be a "Smith": Good or bad, he IS born a Smith! Dogs bark, because it is their nature. Man sins, because he is a sinner by birth. God is *"the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one."* Man was created in that image; body, soul, and spirit, but Adam was not "alive" until *"the LORD God...breathed into his nostrils the Breath of Life; and man became a LIVING soul."* Death is the absence of life. God is Life. Adam sinned and died by virtue of God's absence! He didn't cease to exist: His spirit just couldn't communicate with God anymore. *"For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so, the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God."* When one is *"born again of the Spirit,"* their spirit is made a *"new creature...in Christ"* by virtue of God's returning presence, who is the Eternal Spirit! The believer *"must worship Him in spirit AND in Truth."* Our resurrected spirit is a *"new creature in Christ"* and cannot sin, because it is *"born of God,"* but we still exist in the flesh in a flesh-tempting world. *"For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing. I am (that is, my body is) carnal, sold under sin. The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."* A believer's soul is between these diametrically opposed plurals while on earth. The natural flesh and its desires and our NEW spirit and Christ's desires. We may now either choose Life or death. As we willingly obey, our soul is set apart to God. Jesus prayed, *"Sanctify (set apart) them with Thy Word. Thy Word is Truth"* Our body will one day be transformed! *"It doth not yet appear what we (believers) shall be: but we know that, when [Christ] shall appear, we shall be like Him. [Believers] shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the Last Trump: for the Trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and WE SHALL BE CHANGED...then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory."* Until then we must subdue the sin that is in the flesh through obedience of God's Word. *"For if ye live after (obey) the flesh, ye shall die: But if ye through the Spirit (obey God) do mortify (kill) the deeds of the body, ye shall live."* Obeying Truth grants fellowship with God. *"If we walk in the Light (obey Truth) as He is in the Light (God IS Light/Truth), we (us and God) have fellowship (common interest)."* You do what you think; is God's Word your thought? You choose!

Born of God, forever free!
The flesh is what I used to be,
It is no longer who I am,
For I am new in Christ, the Lamb. -CGP

Meanwhile, we are *"looking for the Blessed Hope and appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ. For in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead BODILY."* Jesus is the BODY of God! Believers are sealed and kept by God the Holy Spirit until the Resurrection of the body. Unbelievers can't choose righteousness any more than a dog can meow. Like a parrot, they may mimic it, but it is only imitation. Believers may choose what they do by what they think. *"Let the Word of Christ dwell in you (in thought) richly."* Confess sin to God, obey the Truth and *"the Truth shall MAKE you free for where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is Liberty!"* When your pleasure is pleasing God, you will KNOW Eternal Life!

"Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto Everlasting Life, which the Son of man (Christ) shall give unto you: for Him hath God the Father sealed." John 6:27 KJV