

*I WANT TO BE BORN AGAIN*

*I want to be born again*



*Ministério Seara Ágape  
Ensino Bíblico Evangélico*

*Tânia Cristina Giachetti  
São Paulo – SP – Brazil*

<https://www.searaagape.com.br/livrosevangelicosonline.html>

*Do you want to be born again?*

*God has a plan.*

*It is called:*

*“The plan of Salvation.”*

*Let me explain:*



In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> day, God created light.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> day, God created the dome, and called Sky.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> day, God separated the waters from the dry land. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. The earth brought forth grass, herbs and fruit trees.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> day, God created the sun and the moon; the sun to rule the day and the moon light to rule the night. And He made the stars also.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> day, God created the sea creatures and the birds.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> day, God created cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind. He also created humankind in His image, according to His likeness.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> day, God rested from all the work that He had done (Gen. 1: 1-31 – summary – NRSV).

“Then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living soul. The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, ‘You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die’ ... Then the Lord God said, ‘It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.’ So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.” (Gen. 2: 7; 15-18; 21-22)

God, in His infinite love, created man in His own image and likeness and gave him a wonderful place to live. Also, He put in him all His wisdom, power, holiness, purity and beauty. He gave him orders to be obeyed for his own good.



“Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” (Gen. 3: 1)

The serpent beguiled Eve, who ate the fruit and also gave Adam to eat. By their disobedience to God’s commands, they were cursed and expelled from His presence and from the garden. The sin of disobedience created a wall of separation between man and God and generated the deformed nature of Satan in man.

“Therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken. He drove out the man; and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim, and a sword flaming and turning to guard the way to the tree of life.” (Gen. 3: 23)

Man lost his intimacy with God. He, who talked to Adam before, at the end of the day, and told him all His secrets, stopped to talk to him. Adam and Eve begot two sons, called Cain and Abel. By his nature corrupted by sin, Cain killed his brother Abel due to jealousy of his relationship with God. God cursed him and he became a fugitive on the earth.



Adam begot another son and named him Seth. From Seth the humanity multiplied. Thus, from the offspring of Seth, Noah was born. Men, with the evil nature of devil within them, became corrupted and this didn't please God. From that act, murders and all kind of perversions came.

God decided to destroy all the living beings He had created, but He found Noah and told him to make an ark of cypress wood and make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch, because there would be a flood of waters on the earth to destroy all flesh (Gen. 6: 5-22; Gen. 7: 1-10). He should put a pair of animals, the male and its mate, inside the ark.

Noah took one hundred years to build the ark.



The Flood lasted forty days and forty nights. One year later, the waters were dried up from the earth (Gen. 7: 11-24; Gen. 8: 1-22; Gen. 9: 1-8). When the waters dried up Noah and his family left the ark and God made a covenant with him. He said that He never again would destroy the earth with a flood. As a sign of this covenant, He would set His bow in the clouds and would remember this everlasting covenant.

“And God said to Noah and his sons: ‘Behold, I establish my covenant with you and with your seed, and with every living creature that is with you’... ‘I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.’ God said, ‘This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth’... ‘When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.’” (Gen. 9: 8-13; 16)

This was *the first covenant of God made with man* to try to reattach the relationship broken by sin.

From Noah an offspring was born and, over the years men forgot again their covenant with God. From the offspring of Shem, a son of Noah, Abram was born. When Abram was 75 years old, God called him to do, through him, a new covenant with men.

“Now the Lord said to Abram, ‘Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’” (Gen. 12: 1-3)

The years passed, God went working with the soul of Abram and told him again:

“Raise your eyes now, and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward; for all the land that you see I will give to you and to your offspring forever... Rise up, walk through the length and the breadth of the land, for I will give it to you.” (Gen. 13: 14-15; 17)

It took a few more years and Abram felt sad because he was 99 years old and yet he had not children. But the Lord promised him He would give him a child, and his name should be Isaac, meaning 'laughter.' Then, He changed his name to Abraham.



This was *the second covenant of God with men*. The signal of this covenant would be the circumcision of every male child when he is eight days old (Gen. 17: 4-14).

Abraham's great-grandson was Joseph, who was sold by his brothers to some merchants and taken to Egypt. After staying in prison for many years he was released and placed by Pharaoh himself as governor of the nation. Thus, Joseph's family was brought to Egypt and multiplied, generating a large seed, as God said. But they became slaves of the Egyptians and began to suffer. So they remembered the God of their ancestors and began to cry unto Him.



As the Hebrews had multiplied in Egypt, Pharaoh commanded to kill the newborn Hebrew males by casting them in the river Nile. Moses' mother hid him for three months but, later, she put him in a basket and placed it in the river. Pharaoh's daughter adopted the boy and gave him the name Moses, meaning, 'Taken out of the waters,' because from the Nile he was taken. He was raised in the palace and prepared to be prince of Egypt. One day, seeing an Egyptian fighting against a Hebrew, he joined the strife and killed the Egyptian. The next day, trying to stop a quarrel between two Hebrews, he found out that the people knew of the murder. Afraid of Pharaoh, he fled to the desert and married Zipporah, daughter of a priest, and went on to shepherd sheep for forty years. In those days he was on Mount Horeb with the flock, when the Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire in a bush which, however, was not consumed. Moses heard God's voice calling him.

The Lord told him: "So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt ... I am that I am" (Ex. 3: 7-14 – summary). Moses returned to Egypt and delivered the people from there.



This was *the third covenant of God with His people*, so that they returned to Him again. Through Moses He gave His laws to be obeyed. The people, however, did not obey God's laws; on the contrary, the nature of the devil in their flesh as a result of the sin of Adam and Eve, continued to act and the people became corrupted again.

The sinful nature of man caused illness, addiction, murder, pride, idolatry, love of money, sexual perversion, deformation of character and all sorts of evil, taking man more and more away from God. For centuries He used His servants, the prophets, to call man back to holiness. The prophets were killed or neglected and the people refused to hear the voice of God. They suffered, but their pride did not let them admit their error, to repent and be saved. God insisted on a covenant of love and restoration with man. Who would accept it?



Then, the Father decided to make a definitive covenant with man by sending His only Son to die for us, to take our sins upon Him and thus, to deliver us from death and hell, which symbolizes the ultimate separation from God. Jesus came to the world and died on the cross to pay the debt for our sins and put an end in the separation between us and God. Since the death of Abel, man's sin would only be cleansed with blood. However, it was not any blood that would be accepted, of men or animals, for only the blood of the Son of God, pure and holy, could pay the debt of humanity. The relationship with the Father would definitely be restored and the chains and bonds of the devil in men's lives would be broken.

“Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.” (Isa. 53: 4-5)



If you believe that Jesus is the Son of God, who resurrected from the dead and gave His life to save you, repeat this prayer aloud:

“Father, in the name of Jesus, I declare that I believe in the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross to save me, and in His resurrection. Therefore, I ask forgiveness for my sins and the same blood that was shed on the cross may cover my whole life and purify me from all sin and injustice. I confess Jesus as my only Lord and Savior and receive your Holy Spirit into my heart so that from now on I can be transformed into the person that you want me to be. Straighten my ways, Lord. Write my name in the Book of Life and make me a participant in your eternal inheritance. In the name of Jesus, I break all ties I have with darkness. Amen.”



“What will happen to me now?”

“Now that you’re born again, there is still one more thing for the blessing to be complete. Before ascending to heaven, Jesus said: ‘Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.’” (Matt. 28: 19)

Jesus also said to Nicodemus the teacher of the Law: “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit.” (Jn. 3: 5)



He was speaking of water baptism, which makes us truly new creatures, with our spirit cleansed from our whole past. With the water baptism, our spirit is created again as it was with Adam’s, in the beginning. We stop doing what we did before in the desire of our flesh (the part of our soul that tends to sin), and we admit we are spiritual people, we receive eternal life, for the life of Jesus is now in us. Baptism also overthrows the

barrier to the flow of the Holy Spirit (the ‘circumcision’ of our heart) and assures us that we are children of God, no longer His creatures as we were before. Baptism separates us definitely from the world (our owner becomes to be Jesus, not Satan). Baptism is not an option, but the Lord’s commandment.

“In him [*Jesus*] also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead” (Col. 2: 11-12).

There is no impediment to baptize, if there is faith in your heart. You need not to be ready or perfect, for it is the Holy Spirit who will perform the sanctification in your life. Baptism is the ‘seal’ of the prayer of surrender you said and gave you salvation. In the book of Acts of the Apostles, when Philip explained the Scriptures to the eunuch, this one asked him, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized? [Philip said, ‘If you believe with all your heart, you may.’ The eunuch answered, ‘I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.’] He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.” (Acts 8: 36b-38)

After the water baptism, you still have one more promise from God to become strong and capable of being used for Him with more power: the baptism with the Holy Spirit. John, the Baptist said:

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me [*Jesus*]; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

It was Jesus who said:

“If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”



Ask God to baptize you with the Holy Spirit, for He is a promise to all of us: “For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” (Acts 2: 39)

The baptism in the Holy Spirit is an extra force coming from God and that enables a person to live the abundance promised by Jesus to those who receive Him, giving to the person the authority to cast out demons, the dominion over the world, the flesh and diseases, blessing him with all the gifts and fruit of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness (generosity), faithfulness, gentleness (meekness) and self-control.

That was what happened at Pentecost with the Apostles when they received the baptism in the Holy Spirit and began to pray in other tongues as a sign of God’s action in their lives. Praying in tongues (‘tongues of angels’) gives your spirit the ability to speak to God in a mystery, without the enemy to understand (1 Cor. 14: 2), and so you can be increasingly strengthened with the Spirit of the Lord. Baptism in Spirit occurs by God’s will. You ask Him and He performs in His own good time. Do not be anxious nor be afraid; it happens naturally, without trauma, when you least expect it, and makes you happy and secure of the presence of God in your life.

“That’s it! You are able to enjoy the kingdom of God. May God bless you.”

When Jesus was born there was a big party in heaven and on earth, because God was giving salvation to men. Today you were born in Christ as a new creature, so the angels rejoice, the Father is pleased to welcome another child and men witness the miracle of the ‘new birth’

Welcome to the family of the Lord!

