

Gen 1:24

24 And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.

KJV

Before Eve was created for Adam, Adam did not marry because there was no one of like kind. There were other creatures but they did not share Adam's nature.

Eve was created out of the side of Adam so that she would share His nature.

Gen 2:21-22

21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

KJV

She was bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh.

Jesus never married during his 33 three years of life on earth. There was no one on earth of like kind who shared his nature. He himself said that he would not entrust himself to man because he knew what was in man.

John 2:24-25

24 But Jesus did not commit himself unto them, because he knew all men,

25 And needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man.

KJV

But on the cross, the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Jesus, the sleep of death. While He slept his side was opened. From his side rushed out water and blood confirming that Jesus was dead. The church was created from this water and the blood that spilled from his side.

The church is the bride of Christ.

Eph 5:25-27

25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

KJV

The church is fit to be his bride because it was created from his side and shares His nature!

2 Peter 1:3-4

3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: **that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

KJV

If you have been born again, you are a member of the church, the bride of Christ. You are not God but you have received the nature of God.

If you are born of God, you share His nature and you are a member of the bride of Christ!

The Lord is washing and cleansing His bride with the Word. He is seeking to remove every blemish. But this change is only possible because the nature of the church has been changed. You are now of His kind and fit to be a member of His bride.

Any change made in you into the image of Christ would not be possible without this change of nature.

As long as you live, you will be continually prepared for the wedding supper of the lamb. But this preparation would not be possible if there was not first a change in your nature.

The Apostle John called this change being born of God. Jesus called it being born again.

If you are born again, there is nothing that God expects from you that is not already your nature.

- It is your nature to be humble.
- It is your nature to mourn over your sin and the sins of others.
- It is your nature to yield your rights.
- It is your nature hunger after righteousness.
- It is your nature to be merciful and to forgive.
- It is your nature to have pure motives. It is your nature to share your faith with others.
- It is your nature to stand alone for what is righteous.
- It is your nature to do good works for others.
- It is your nature to fulfill the law.
- It is your nature to seek forgiveness when you discover you have sinned against others. It is your nature to agree with your adversary.
- It is your nature to be faithful to your spouse.
- It is your nature to keep your word.
- It is your nature to turn the other cheek.
- It is your nature to give and lend to those who ask of you.
- It is your nature to love your enemies. It is your nature to seek the Father's praise.
- It is your nature to treasure eternal things.
- It is your nature to trust the Father to meet your needs.

- It is your nature to be transparent and take the beam out of your eye before you judge others.
- It is your nature to pray and expect your prayers to be answered.
- It is your nature to avoid all the evil ways of the world...
- It is your nature to seek to know God and to seek God for guidance.
- It is your nature to love God and love others in these ways.

There are so many people that attend church or are members of a church that are not members of the bride of Christ. They do not have His nature.

Some of these church members try so hard to be like Jesus but it is in their own strength because they do not share His nature. Some give up because it is just too hard. Some stop going to church. Others become nominal church members.

Others believe they are succeeding because outwardly they have learned to make themselves appear to be better than others. They are like the Pharisees in that they have a habit of measuring the sincerity of others by their man made standards of righteousness.

Jesus said that for fruit to be good, a tree must be good.

**Matt 7:18**

**18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.**

**KJV**

The nature of the tree will determine what kind of fruit it produces.

Those who do not have the nature of God have not been born again and they are not fit to be a member of the bride of Christ!

Why are there so many who attend church or have attended church who have not been born again?

They have never seen themselves as a sinner who needs a new nature?

**John 3:5-6**

**5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.**

**6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.**

**KJV**

They have never been willing to repent of sin and yield their lives to Jesus?

**Acts 3:19**

**19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;**

**KJV**

**Luke 13:3**

**3 I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.**

**KJV**

They have never put their hope only in Jesus for their eternal salvation?

Mark 1:15

15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

KJV

Have you been born again? Do you have the nature of God?

Graduates, if this is the last sermon that you ever here me preach, please here this one. You must be born again.

1 John 5:3-4

3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

KJV

To overcome the world you must be born of God. You must have His nature.

Have you been born again? If you have not, you are not fit to be His bride. If you attempt to keep His commands you will either become very frustrated and give up or you will adopt external standards that you can keep to measure your sincerity and the sincerity of others.

Worst of all, you will be devastated when He returns or when you discover you were never His child.

If you have been born again, never trade what God has done in you for the world and what the world has to offer. Don't attempt to adopt any other identity then who God created you to be.

The world includes a world system of religion that measures the sincerity of others by external standards that men create. Don't let anyone judge you or your sincerity by external standards created by men. Do not submit yourself or your family to them. Do not yield to the temptation to become like them in order to gain their acceptance and approval or to advance in religion.

Hold on instead to the miracle God has done in you thru the Holy Spirit. If you are born again, you have God's nature. You are of His kind, prepared to be the bride of Jesus Christ.

Every bride wants more than anything else to know her husband. That is your nature. Be who you are! Change your conduct as Jesus reveals Himself and His nature to you. He will then live His life thru you and others will be drawn unto Him.

You must be born again!

Today I invite you...

To see your need for a new nature.

To repent of sin and abandon yourself to Jesus.

To put your hope only in Jesus for your eternal salvation.