1 Peter 1:3-4 "3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us **new birth** into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade." (NIV)

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE BORN AGAIN

1. Rebirth happens by the WILL AND ACT OF GOD.

John 1:9-13 "9 The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and though the world was made through Him, the world did not recognize Him. 11 He came to that which was His own, but His own did not receive Him. 12 Yet to all who did receive Him, to those who believed in HIs name, He gave the right to become children of God—13 children **born** not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but **born of God**." (NIV)

James 1:18 "**He chose** to give us **birth** through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all He created." (NIV)

2. Rebirth happens by the WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

John 3:1-7 "1 Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. 2 He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him." 3 Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are **born again**." "4 How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!" 5 Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are **born of water and the Spirit**. 6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. 7 You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." (NIV)

3. Rebirth happens by the WORD OF TRUTH.

James 1:18 "He chose to give us birth through **the word of truth**, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all He created." (NIV)

1 Peter 1:23 "For you have been **born again**, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God." (NIV)

4. It is a rebirth into A LIVING HOPE.

1 Peter 1:3-4 "3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us **new birth** into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade." (NIV)

Ephesians 2:12 "12 … remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ." (NIV)

1 Peter 1:23 "For you have been **born again**, **not of perishable seed, but of imperishable seed**, through the living and enduring word of God." (NIV)

5. It's a rebirth into RIGHTEOUSNESS.

1 John 2:29 "If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who does what is right has been **born** of Him." (NIV)

1 John 3:9 "No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in them; they cannot go on sinning, because they have been born of God." (NIV)

1 John 5:18 "We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the One who was born of God keeps them safe, and the evil one cannot harm them." (NIV)

6. It's a rebirth into LOVE.

1 John 3:10 "This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not God's child, nor is anyone who does not love their brother and sister." (NIV)

1 John 4:7-8 "7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been **born** of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love." (NIV)

7. It's a rebirth into VICTORY.

1 John 5:1-4 "1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is **born of God**, and everyone who loves the father loves His child as well. 2 This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out His commands. 3 In fact, this is love for God: to keep His commands. And His commands are not burdensome, 4 for everyone **born of God** overcomes the world. This is the victory that have overcome the world, even our faith. 5 Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God." (NIV)

BOTTOM LINE

2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the **new creation** has come. The old has gone, the new is here!" (NIV)

Colossians 1:13-14 "13 For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into **the kingdom of the Son** He loves, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." (NIV)

1 Peter 1:3-4 "3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us **new birth** into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade." (NIV)