

Three Important Births

by

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“The Natural Birth”

This is how I came into this world. I was born physically. I had two parents — my father Charles Nandwa, and mother Jeskah Nandwa. God decreed that the law of birth be the means of entrance into this world and so I came into this physical world by the natural birth.

Before I grew up to recognize my actions in relation to God’s law (the age of accountability), I was as pure as the Kingdom of God. Jesus said, *“Unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the Kingdom of Heaven.”*

When I become of age, my father took me to school. I met other children there and some become my friends. I started experiencing this world that I did not understand that it was destined for destruction. I went through school life, it was good and enjoyable, from primary to secondary (Form IV); from there I went to Teacher’s college where I trained as a primary school teacher.

I completed the college and started working. I got money; this money got me somewhere very dangerous, because I started drinking and committing all sorts of sins that my money could direct me to, i.e. women, dancing, etc.

One day I got into trouble; I was attacked by robbers on my way back home at night. I almost lost my life, but I lost all my money.

The Apostle Paul gives the description of the life I lived in the book of Ephesians Chapter 2:

- *“While they were in sin, they were dead’* (vs 1-2). I was dead while I lived.
- They were *“without God”* (vs. 12). I had no God.
- They were *“without Father in heaven”*.
- They were *“without Christ”* (vs. 12); when you don’t have Christ you are *“without peace”* (v 14) When you don’t have Christ, you have no hope (v 12). Here I was; no peace, no hope. I asked myself several times; what must I do?

In 1993 I met a preacher from the new apostolic church. He told me about Jesus Christ. I believed and joined this denomination. I was “baptized” by being sprinkled with water.

“The New Birth”

Jesus decreed that the means of entrance into His Kingdom should also be a birth. In His conversation with Nicodemus, Jesus stressed the essentiality of the new birth (John 3:1-5).

The same year, 1993, I met Bro. Boaz Auma, Bro. Laban Ambogo and other missionaries from USA at a place near Butere in Western Kenya. I heard, for the first time about the church of Christ. I believed what was preached to me. I was baptized on the same day in much water. (Acts 2:41; John 3:23). In Acts 2:42, the Bible says *“And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship”*. I was so happy because my question “What must I do” was answered. Now there was another question, “What must I do to live a Christian life?” It was my desire to preach and teach the word of God to other people. My question was also answered by the Bible. I read in 2 Tim. 2:15, the Bible says *“Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth”*. I needed someone to teach me. I met with the W.B.S teachers at Nakuru when I came here after one year. They handed to me some lessons of which I completed all fourteen courses. I then applied to International school of Biblical studies in South Africa. I became a student at this school where I studied through correspondence till I completed.

I have since that time served my Lord in various congregations here in Nakuru.

My first congregation to serve was Nakuru Town Church of Christ. Through my efforts and Brother Benjamin Ronoh, we started Barut Church of Christ. Brother Humphrey Egesa who later joined us helped in the work of evangelism. Brother Alphonse Kipngetch is a youth leader as well as an evangelist.

For all those years, we did believe that whatever we were doing was according to scriptures. But then one day in the year 2011 four visitors arrived from Tanzania. They were Bro. Boaz Auma, Bro. Laban Ambogo, Bro Ellis Forsman (From U.S.A) and Rispa, the wife to Boaz. Their arrival was a turning point to us, especially to me. I heard about the Lord’s churches that used one cup in the Lord’s Table. But no one had come and taught the way Ellis did. We changed to the use of one cup according to what is taught in the Bible. Thanks to the Lord who has granted the opportunity to Bro. Ellis to come to East Africa. God bless Ellis.

Christian life is a struggle. We all must struggle to become better not worse. The Apostle Paul admonished, *“But showed first unto them at Jerusalem and throughout all costs of Judea, and then to gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance”* (Acts 26:20).

“The Supernatural Birth”

The third and the last birth is the supernatural birth. Jesus is “*the first born from the dead*” (Colossians 1:18); the resurrection from the grave is spoken of as a birth. There are three questions I have always asked myself:

- Where did I come from?
- What am I doing here?
- Where am I going?

I have already answered two questions. The Bible gives answer to the third question. The Apostle John wrote, “*Marvel not at this, for the hour is coming in which all that are in the graves shall hear the voice; and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil; unto the resurrection of damnation.*” (John 5:28-29).

Therefore, the Bible which is the word of God gives me assurance that there is life beyond this world. The life beyond (the life after death) gives meaning to life before death. If there is no life after death, then life on earth has no meaning. We should simply eat, drink, and get the most out of what brief existence we have (1 Cor.15:12-19).

I, therefore, welcome you to come in the church of Christ, so that we travel together toward heavenly life. Do the following:

- Hear the gospel (Rom. 10:17)
- Believe the gospel (John 3:16; Acts 8:37)
- Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30-31)
- Confess the name of Jesus Christ. (Rom. 10:10)
- Be baptized for the remission of your Sins (Acts 2:38; 8:38; 22:16)

You are now born again Christian, a child of God. Do the following in order to live in Christ:

- “*Abide in Christ*”. It’s not enough to make a start. Jesus said, “*if any one does not abide in me, he is thrown away...*” (John 15:16). In order to be fruitful and pleasing to God we must remain faithful to the end of our lives, or to the end of time (Rev. 2:10).
- “*Die in the Lord*”. “*Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord*” (Rev. 14:13). God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus (1 Thess. 4:14). Who would not want to be a Christian and enjoy the blessings that are to be found only in Christ? Be a Christian. Be a member of His church.

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