



the

DEFENSE

for my hope



The Grounds for My Defense

The Need for a Defense

- Defense – *apologia* – “defense; as a legal technical term, a speech in defense of oneself reply, verbal defense; as a religious technical term defense of the gospel message from false teaching” (ALGNT)
- Reason and evidence are required — **Acts 17:1-4, 11**
- Faith is evidence based — **Hebrews 11:1**



The Grounds for My Defense

The Standard

- The Lordship of Jesus — *“but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts”* (1 Peter 3:15, NASB)
 - Salvation is by His authority — John 5:24-57
 - *“He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him”* (Hebrews 5:9)
- The conduct of my defense — *“with meekness and fear”*
- The reason for my defense — Acts 26:28-29



The Hope

The hope Peter writes about was introduced in **1 Peter 1:3-5**:

- **(v. 3)** — gained through birth.
- **(v. 4)** — an inheritance.
- **(v. 5)** — realized through faith.

What does it mean to be “*begotten...again?*”



Born of God

- The “*right*” (authority) Jesus gives for those to be called Children of God — **John 1:12-13** — “*received Him,*” “*believe in His name,*” “*born...of God*”

How is one “*born...of God?*”

- Jesus spoke to of the new birth — **John 3:3-8**
 - (v. 3) — “*again*”
 - (v. 5) — “*of water and the Spirit*” = “*of God*”
 - “*the kingdom of God*” (v. 5) — **Col. 1:13-14; John 3:14-17**

What does it mean to be “*born of water and the Spirit?*”



Born of Water and the Spirit

- Peter expounded on being “*begotten again*” — **1 Peter 1:22-25**
 - (v. 22) — purified souls (blessings of kingdom)
 - (v. 23) — born of incorruptible seed, word of God = born of God.
- What about the Spirit?
 - The Spirit sanctifies — (v. 2)
 - The Spirit sanctifies through the truth — **2 Thess. 2:13-14**
 - Born again through the word (v. 23) = born of the Spirit.
- What about the water?



Born of Water and the Spirit

- Born of water?
- Different aspects, but same birth: Birth of water = birth of Spirit = born of the word of God.
 - Word of God = gospel — **1 Peter 1:12, 25**
 - What does the gospel say? — **Mark 16:15-16**
 - Baptism required by the Spirit's gospel which saves is in water — **1 Peter 3:15-17, 20-21** — *“Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you” (NASB)*



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Galatians 3:26, 29

“For you are all **sons of God** through faith in Christ Jesus. For as
 many of you as were **baptized** into Christ **have put on Christ...**
 And if you are Christ’s, then you are **Abraham’s seed, and heirs**
according to the promise.”

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