

THE SEED OF THE NEW LIFE

READING: [1 Peter 1:18-25](#)

TEXT: *"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever" ([1 Peter 1:23](#)).*

I. The Seed of the New Life is the Distinctive Word of God ([1 Peter 1:23](#))

II. The Seed of the New Life is the Dynamic Word of God ([1 Peter 1:23](#))

III. The Seed of the New Life is the Directive Word of God ([1 Peter 1:22](#))

Introduction

There is no more exciting truth in all the range of biblical revelation than that of new life in Christ. It is the essence of the gospel. This is why Christ identified Himself with life when He said, *"I am ... the life"* ([John 14:6](#)).

The purpose for which He came into the world was to bring life to those *"who were dead in trespasses and sins"* ([Ephes. 2:1](#)). Just as human life starts with the seed necessary for physical birth and growth, so divine life starts with the seed which brings about spiritual birth and growth.

So Peter speaks of *"being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever"* ([1 Peter 1:23](#)).

This seed is described as the living and abiding Word of God. Let us examine this a little more closely:

I. THE SEED OF THE NEW LIFE IS THE DISTINCTIVE (unique) WORD OF GOD

"The word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever" ([1 Peter 1:23](#)).

The message of new life is not the subject of human speculation, but the substance of divine revelation; it is the Word of God.

When we think of the new life we are confronted with four aspects of the Word of God:

1) It Is The Word Of Inerrancy: (incapable mistakes) *"The word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever"* ([1 Peter 1:23](#)).

Since the Bible reflects the nature and character of an infallible God, we must accept the fact that this Book is divine truth without any admixture of error. Its unity, prophecy and history prove its inerrancy.

2) It Is The Word Of Authority *"The word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever"* ([1 Peter 1:23](#))

"When the Scriptures speak, God speaks," and this is the only way in which we can view the Bible. So as we listen to Scripture we must remember that we are listening to God. **{HOLD UP BIBLE}** We have no right to debate or question what He says. The Bible is the word of authority.

3) It Is The Word Of Eternity *"The word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever"* ([1 Peter 1:23](#)).

Peter reminds us of the words of Isaiah where he says, *"All flesh is as grass ... The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: but the word of the Lord endureth for ever"* ([1 Peter 1:24-25](#)).

Jesus declared, *"Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away"* ([Mark 13:31](#)).

The words of men may fail, but the Word of God stands firm for ever. We can depend on what God says. This is why Paul insists that, faced with a choice between man's word versus God's Word, our position must always be: *"Let God be true, but every man a liar"* ([Romans 3:4](#)).

4) It Is The Word Of Vitality (energy, life, vigor) *"The word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever"* ([1 Peter 1:23](#)).

"The word of God" is the instrument which the Holy Spirit uses to bring about the miracle of new life in Christ.

We can read the words of men and be interested and informed, but something supernatural happens to us when we hear the Word of God. Jesus said, *"The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life"* ([John 6:63](#)).

The Seed of the new life is the distinctive Word of God. There is something unique and supernatural about this Book we call the Holy Bible.

II. THE SEED OF THE NEW LIFE IS THE DYNAMIC (energetic, vibrate) WORD OF GOD *"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God"* ([1 Peter 1:23](#)). Inherent in the Word of God is a dynamic power, and from this passage we find that:

1) The Word Of God Has A Revealing Power In Jesus Christ

Peter states, *"This is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you"* ([1 Peter 1:25](#)). Outside of the Bible we have no gospel, no message for a sin-sick world; but as we read Holy Scripture we see revealed the only hope of mankind in the Lord, Jesus Christ.

No other book in the entire world contains the gospel of Jesus Christ. This is why the Bible is indispensable.

2) The Word Of God Has A Redeeming Power In Jesus Christ

"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot" ([1 Peter 1:18-19](#)).

As we read the Word of God we discover that men and women are slaves to sin. You and I know that this is true; and the central fact of the gospel is that the Lord Jesus came to redeem us at the cost of His own blood by paying the price on Calvary's cross.

He made possible our salvation from sin, self and Satan, as recorded in the Scriptures. So there is a redeeming power in this seed of the Word.

3) The Word Of God Has A Renewing Power In Jesus Christ

"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever" (1 Peter 1:23).

As the gospel is read or preached, the Spirit of God uses the truth to bring about the miracle known as the new birth.

As natural seed falls into the ground, germinates and brings forth life, so the seed of the Word falls into the human heart and spiritual life begins.

Nourished by this same Word, new life grows and matures. Peter puts it simply and clearly when he writes: *"As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby" (1 Peter 2:2).*

III. THE SEED OF THE NEW LIFE IS THE DIRECTIVE(order, command) WORD OF GOD

"Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth ... love one another with a pure heart fervently" (1 Peter 1:22).

No one can listen to the Word of God and stay neutral. The Bible demands obedience. Failure to obey is disobedience, and disobedience is sin ([1 Samuel 15:22-23](#)).

It is judged by God with eternal punishment ([2 Thes. 1:8-10](#)). So we must be quick to obey what the Bible teaches. The Bible directs us into three areas of obedience:

1) The Word Of God Demands The Obedience Of Faith

Peter writes here of *"faith ... in God" (1 Peter 1:21).*

The Bible never directs us to place our faith in men, in works, or institutions, but rather in God. This calls for repentance, or a change of mind.

The reason for this is that our natural tendency is to depend on ourselves or on human resources—and God calls this sin. Repentance is a change of mind which leads to a change of direction and destiny.

Faith in God means commitment or surrender to Jesus Christ, because no man can come to God except through Jesus Christ. So we read that *"faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17).*

2) The Word Of God Demands The Obedience Of Hope

Peter also speaks of *"hope ... in God" (1 Peter 1:21).*

Outside of the Christian gospel man is utterly hopeless.

This is becoming more and more apparent. There is no hope in human inventions and institutions. All around us are failure and frustration.

What a relief to turn to the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and find hope! The Son of God died and rose again to give us hope, and because He lives we can know this living hope in a personal, powerful way.

3) The Word Of God Demands The Obedience Of Love

In "*obeying the truth*" we are told to "*love one another with a pure heart fervently*" ([1 Peter 1:22](#)).

The world knows little about true love. This is why there is so much failure in human relationships in the home, in business, and in society. But the Bible gives us the secret of true love.

What we can't do the Holy Spirit can perform in our hearts through this new life in Christ, creating in us active, fervent love to both God and man. The human heart was made for love and will never be satisfied without it. This is why life is meaningless until we come to know new life in Christ.

Conclusion

We have seen that this new life in Christ starts with a seed—the Word of God.

It is a **DISTINCTIVE** Word, trustworthy and authoritative.

It is a **DYNAMIC** Word which has power to reveal, redeem and renew.

It is a **DIRECTIVE** Word which demands obedience.

To listen to this Word calls for a verdict. To accept its message is to come into blessing; to reject its message is to remain in bondage.

In the final analysis, when we refer to the Word we speak not only of the written Word but also the Living Word, our Lord Jesus Christ.

He is God's Seed who longs to be planted and nourished in our hearts. Are YOU prepared to accept or reject Him? This is the crucial issue.