The new birth is necessary in every part of the soul ... because there was an universal depravation by the fall, regeneration must answer it in its extensiveness in every faculty. Otherwise it is not the birth of the man, but of one part only (Steven Charnock)

"God effects a change which is radical and all-pervasive, a change which cannot be explained in terms of any combination, permutation or accumulation of human resources, a change which is nothing less than a new creation by Him who calls the things that be not as though they were, who spoke and it was done, who commanded and it stood fast. This, in a word, is regeneration." (John Murray)

- The Bible describes Regeneration (the new birth) in many ways/synonyms:
 - The circumcision of the heart (Deut 30.6)
 - Taking away the heart of stone & putting in the heart of flesh (Ezek 11:19)
 - The person who is a "new creation -- new things have come" (2 Cor 5.17)
 - No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him (John 6.44)
 - God made us alive together with Christ (Eph 2.4-5)
 - Israel's future regeneration described as "life from the dead" (Rom 11.15)
 - It is the Spirit who gives life (John 6.63-64)
 - You have been born again, by the living & enduring Word of God (1 Pet 1.23)
 - God brought us forth by the Word of Truth (James 1.18)
 - The Lord opened Lydia's heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul (Acts 16.13)
 - Jesus calls it: being born again [or, 'born from above] (John 3.3)

Mark it well! Every generation needs regeneration!

THESIS — I want you to be amazed & awed by the GLORY OF REGENERATION, in 5 Biblical Explanations:

- •Regeneration is **Profoundly Merciful**
- •Regeneration is **Powerfully Internal**
- •Regeneration is **Preeminently Supernatural**
- •Regeneration is **Protectively Eternal**
- •Regeneration is **Positively Transformational**

I. REGENERATION IS PROFOUNDLY MERCIFUL (5a)

II.REGENERATION IS POWERFULLY INTERNAL (Ezek 36)

III.REGENERATION IS PREEMINENTLY SUPERNATURAL (John 3)

REGENERATION IS...

- 1. **promised** by God he says "I WILL..."
- 2. **prophesied** by God for Israel in the eschaton
- 3. **perfected** by God GOD *alone* does the work (man is passive)
- 4. **personal** by God upon YOU [individually]
- 5. **profound** by God a profoundly, internal transforming work
- 6. **purifying** by God washes, cleanses
- 7. **permanent** by God forever.
- 8. **preeminent** by God one of the greatest works.

IV.REGENERATION IS <u>PROTECTIVELY ETERNAL</u> (1 Pet 1)

V.REGENERATION IS <u>POSITIVELY TRANSFORMATIONAL!</u> (Ezek 36)

- How do you know you're regenerated?
- Regeneration of heart **always** produces reformation of life. New creation shows itself in new conduct.
 - 1. You'll believe Christ firmly for salvation (1 John 5.1)
 - 2. You'll practice righteousness & godliness (1 John 2.29)
 - 3. You'll love other believers (1 John 4.7)
 - 4. You'll do good (3 John 11)
 - 5. You'll be careful to walk in God's ways (Ezek 36:27)

Assist my soul, my heavenly King, Thy everlasting love to sing; And joyful spread thy praise abroad, As one, through grace, that's **BORN OF GOD**.

No, it was not the will of man My soul's new heavenly birth began; Nor will nor power of flesh and blood That turned my heart from sin to God.

Herein let self be all abased, And sovereign love alone confessed; This be my song through all the road, That born I am, and **BORN OF GOD**.

And when the appointed hour shall come, That thou wilt call me to my home, Joyful I'll pass the chilling flood, And die as one that's **BORN OF GOD.**

- Samuel Medley (18th c. hymnwriter)

BLESSED ASSURANCE

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine; Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long. This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, Visions of rapture now burst on my sight; Angels descending, bring from above Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest; Watching and waiting, looking above, Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.