

# I Peter 1:23-25 - The Word of God Endures Forever

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**Tonight we continue in chapter 1 of the First Epistle of Peter.**

**Last week we covered:**

1 Peter 1:22 NKJV - Since you have **purified** your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere **love** of the brethren, **love** one another **fervently** with a pure heart,

**This week we'll cover the last three verses of chapter 1:**

1 Peter 1:23 NKJV - having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,

1 Peter 1:24 NKJV - because "All flesh [is] as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away,

1 Peter 1:25 NKJV - But the word of the LORD endures forever." Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.

**The two most significant concepts in these verses are (1) being born again of incorruptible seed and (2) the Word of God that lives forever.**

**Both are important concepts that we could take much time to look at.**

- **Which is more important?**
- **Are they related?**
- **What makes the seed we're to be reborn with "incorruptible"?**
- **How does the word of God live forever? Does that have to do with the "Word" becoming flesh? Does it involve it (the Word) now being in us?**

**First, let's look at the phrase "born again":**

Born again = G313 = **ἀναγεννάω anagennáō**, an-ag-en-nah'-o; from G303 and G1080; to beget or (by extension) bear (again):—beget, (bear) ✕ (again).

The KJV translates Strong's G313 in the following manner: **begat again** (1x), **be born again** (1x).

**Outline of Biblical Usage:**

- I. to produce again, be born again, born anew
- II. metaph. to have one's mind changed so that he lives a new life and one conformed to the will of God

The only other place this Greek word is used is in verse 3:

1 Peter 1:3 NKJV - Blessed [be] the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has **begotten us again** to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

I believe "begotten" is a better translation and more accurate to the state we are in now. We will be fully born into Spirit at the first resurrection.

One reason is it is talking about a "seed" that doesn't die as most seeds do, but lives. A seed is more compatible with the concept of begettal.

A few examples:

Genesis 3:15 NKJV - And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."

Genesis 21:12 NKJV - But God said to Abraham, "Do not let it be displeasing in your sight because of the lad or because of your bondwoman. Whatever Sarah has said to you, listen to her voice; for in Isaac your seed shall be called.

Genesis 22:18 NKJV - "In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

Also we must remember this is building on the idea of "brotherly love" introduced in the previous verse. ie since we share the same begettal by the same spirit that indeed makes us brothers and sisters.

From Pulpit Commentary:

Being born again; rather, having been begotten again. St. Peter repeats the verb used already in 1Pe\_1:3. It is the highest argument for brotherly love; the children of the one Father are all brethren; they should "love as brethren" (1Pe\_3:8). Not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God, which liveth and abideth forever. The word used here (σπορά) means, properly, "sowing;" but, like σπόρος (Luk\_8:11), it stands also for the seed; and here the epithets "corruptible" and "incorruptible" seem to necessitate this second meaning. In the passage quoted from St. Luke, the seed (σπόρος) is identified with the Word. "The seed is the Word of God." Here there seems to be a distinction. God's elect are begotten again of incorruptible seed through the Word.

1 Peter 3:8 NKJV - Finally, all [of you be] of one mind, having compassion for one another; **love as brothers**, [be] tenderhearted, [be] courteous;

1 John 3:7 NKJV - Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.

1 John 3:8 NKJV - He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 3:9 NKJV - Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for **His seed remains in him**; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.

James 1:18 KJV - Of his own will **begat he us with the word of truth**, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

Luke 8:11 NKJV - "Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.  
(Also in Matthew 13)

This provided a good connection to the next concept.

1 Peter 1:23 NKJV - having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the **word** [G3056] of God which lives and abides forever,

1 Peter 1:24 NKJV - because

*"All flesh [is] as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass.  
The grass withers, And its flower falls away,*

*1 Peter 1:25 NKJV - But the **word** [G4487] of the LORD endures forever."*

[This quote is from Isaiah 40:6-8]

(verse 25, continued:) Now this is the **word** [G4487] which by the gospel was preached to you.

Word = G3056 = **λόγος λόγος**, log'-os; from G3004; something said (including the thought); by implication, a topic (subject of discourse), also reasoning (the mental faculty) or motive; by extension, a computation; specially, (with the article in John) the Divine Expression (i.e. Christ):—account, cause, communication, ✕ concerning, doctrine, fame, ✕ have to do, intent, matter, mouth, preaching, question, reason, + reckon, remove, say(-ing), shew, ✕ speaker, speech, talk, thing, + none of these things move me, tidings, treatise, utterance, word, work. **The KJV translates Strong's G3056 in the following manner:** word (218x), saying (50x), account (8x), speech (8x), Word (Christ) (7x), thing (5x), not translated (2x), miscellaneous (32x). Total 330x

From Outline of Biblical Usage:

- I. of speech
  - A. a word, uttered by a living voice, embodies a conception or idea
  - B. what someone has said
    - i. a word
    - ii. the sayings of God
    - iii. decree, mandate or order
    - iv. of the moral precepts given by God
    - v. Old Testament prophecy given by the prophets
    - vi. what is declared, a thought, declaration, aphorism, a weighty saying, a dictum, a maxim
  - C. discourse
    - i. the act of speaking, speech
    - ii. the faculty of speech, skill and practice in speaking
    - iii. a kind or style of speaking
    - iv. a continuous speaking discourse - instruction
  - D. doctrine, teaching
  - E. anything reported in speech; a narration, narrative
  - F. matter under discussion, thing spoken of, affair, a matter in dispute, case, suit at law
  - G. the thing spoken of or talked about; event, deed
- II. its use as respect to the MIND alone
  - A. reason, the mental faculty of thinking, meditating, reasoning, calculating
  - B. account, i.e. regard, consideration
  - C. account, i.e. reckoning, score
  - D. account, i.e. answer or explanation in reference to judgment
  - E. relation, i.e. with whom as judge we stand in relation
    - i. reason would
  - F. reason, cause, ground
- III. In John, denotes the essential Word of God, Jesus Christ, the personal wisdom and power in union with God, his minister in creation and government of the universe, the cause of all the world's life both physical and ethical, which for the procurement of man's salvation put on human nature in the person of Jesus the Messiah, the second person in the Godhead, and shone forth conspicuously from His words and deeds.

Acts 10:36 NKJV - "The word [logos] which [God] sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ--He is Lord of all--

Acts 10:37 NKJV - "**that word you know**, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee after the baptism which John preached:

John 1:1 NKJV - In the beginning was the **Word**, and the **Word** was with God, and the **Word** was God.

John 1:2 NKJV - He was in the beginning with God.

John 1:3 NKJV - All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

John 1:4 NKJV - In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

John 1:5 NKJV - And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

...

John 1:12 NKJV - But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

John 1:13 NKJV - who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

John 1:14 NKJV - And the **Word** became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

The other Word in I Peter 1

Word = G4487 = **ῥῆμα rhēma**, hray'-mah; from G4483; an utterance (individually, collectively or specially),; by implication, a matter or topic (especially of narration, command or dispute); with a negative naught whatever:—+ evil, + nothing, saying, word.

Is what Peter citing in Isaiah a “remez”?

*The great teachers (rabbis) during Jesus' day used a technique that was later called remez. In their teaching, they would use part of a Scripture passage in a discussion, assuming that their audience's knowledge of the Bible would allow them to deduce for themselves the fuller meaning of the teaching. Apparently, Jesus, who possessed a brilliant understanding of Scripture and strong teaching skills, used this method often.*

<https://www.thatttheworldmayknow.com/remez>

Isaiah 40:28 NKJV - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, The Creator of the ends of the earth, Neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable.

Isaiah 40:29 NKJV - He gives power to the weak, And to [those who have] no might He increases strength.

Isaiah 40:30 NKJV - Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall,

Isaiah 40:31 NKJV - But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew [their] strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

Peter is quoting a section of Isaiah that is very encouraging.

Some other verses to ponder:

Proverbs 3:3 NKJV - Let not mercy and truth forsake you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart,

2 Corinthians 3:2 NKJV - You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men;

2 Corinthians 3:3 NKJV - clearly you are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, [that is], of the heart.

Ezekiel 36:25 NKJV - "Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.

Ezekiel 36:26 NKJV - "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

Ezekiel 36:27 NKJV - "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do [them].

Hebrews 8:10 NKJV - "For this [is] the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.