

**Systematic Theology**  
**The Doctrine of Salvation: Calling and Regeneration**

**II. Regeneration**

- A. Three views of regeneration:
1. Baptismal regeneration
  2. Decisional regeneration
  3. Sovereign or monergistic regeneration
- B. Definitions of regeneration
1. A note about Calvin's usage
  2. Other terms: the new birth, born again, born from above, renewal
  3. 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. (Murray, RAA, 96).
  3. Regeneration is a secret act of God in which He imparts new spiritual life to us. . . Scripture view regeneration as something that affects us as whole persons. (Grudem, 699, 701)
  4. Regeneration refers to the total transformation of a person; in the restricted sense, it has in view the implantation of new life that then leads to conversion and further sanctification (Bavinck, IV, 32).
- C Major Passages
- Ezek. 36:25-27
- Titus 3:5

2 Cor. 4:3-6

Eph. 2:4-5

1 Pet. 1:3, 23

John 1:12-13

John 3:1-8

D Other Passages

Deut. 30:6; Jer. 32:39-40; 2 Cor. 5:17; Eph. 4:24; Jas. 1:18;  
1 John 2:29; 3:9; 4:7; 5:1, 4, 18

E The Nature of Regeneration

- 1 It is a sovereign work (Jn. 1:12-13; 3:3-8; Jas. 1:18; 1 Pet. 1:3)
- 2 It is a radical work (Ezek. 36:26-27; 1 Jn. 3:9 et. al)
- 3 It precedes and causes faith and repentance (1 Jn. 5:1; Eph. 2:5, 8-9; Phil. 1:29).
- 4 The Agent of regeneration is the Holy Spirit (Jn. 3:3-8; Titus 3:5)
- 5 The Instrument of regeneration is the Word of God (Jas. 1:18; 1 Pet. 1:23).