

whole race, under Adam, as its federal head was born spiritually dead.³⁷

Our natural birth made us members “of” the fallen sinful first-Adam race. We must remember that when Adam fell God never took away the first gift He gave to Adam and us, free will, the ability to make choices. This does away with the blame game, blaming God, anyone else, or circumstances and situations for what we don’t want to be accountable and responsible to God for, through an unsubmitted will.³⁸ But thanks be to God alone,³⁹ our transition from the old sinful race to the new godly race is known as the “new birth.”⁴⁰

When we were born again it was through repentance. In the Greek, repentance is *metanoia*, having to do with a will – a change of mind and a turning around. In general, it is a gaining, through grace and faith in Christ alone, of insight, a

³⁷ John 3:3-5; Psalm 51:5; 58:3; John 8:44

³⁸ Genesis 3:11-13; Matthew 15:16-20; Mark 7:14-23; Romans 3:23

³⁹ Ephesians 2:8-10

⁴⁰ John 3:3-7; Colossians 1:12-13; 2 Corinthians 5:17

despair as to oneself, a renouncing of all self-redemption, that is the whole fallen and ruined image with all of its own mind, thoughts, and emotions.

Not works of fallen flesh⁴¹ but a change of mind, the action of the unconditional love and free grace of God in Christ, toward God and faith (complete and total dependence) toward our Lord Jesus Christ.⁴² We were born into Him-Christ and given in Him, a new image based upon a new nature,⁴³ Christ became and now forever and all eternity⁴⁴ is our very life.⁴⁵

Adam was created by God in untried innocence. The words innocent, innocence, and innocency are defined in Noah Webster's 1828 Dict. as follows. *Properly, freedom from any quality that can injure, innoxiousness; harmlessness. In a moral*

⁴¹ Romans 5:20-21; 5:6-10; 11:5-6; 3:23=24-26; Galatians 2:16-21

⁴² Acts 20:21

⁴³ 2 Corinthians 5:16-17

⁴⁴ Ecclesiastes 3:14; Malachi 3:6; James 1:17; Number 23:19-23; Eph 2:8-10; John 6:37-39; 10:28-29=30

⁴⁵ Colossians 3:3-4; Galatians 2:20; 1 John 5:11; John 14:6

sense, freedom from crime, sin, or guilt; untainted purity of heart and life, and unimpaired integrity. Freedom from guilt or evil intentions; not producing injury; free from qualities that can injure; harmless, not having done wrong or violated any law; not tainted with sin; pure; upright.

Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary notes on morals and morality is as follows, *The quality of an action which renders it good.*⁴⁶ *It is the conformity of an act to the divine law, or to the principles of rectitude. This conformity implies that the act must be performed by a free agent,*⁴⁷ *and from a motive of obedience to the divine will.*⁴⁸ *This is the strict theological and scriptural sense of morality. But we often apply the word to actions which accord with justice and human laws without reference to the motives from which they proceed.*

⁴⁶ The whole word of God and His description of good is found in Genesis 1:3-12, 13-31; Exodus 34:6; Matthew 19:17; Luke 18:19 vs. Psalm 14:1-3; 53:1-3; Isaiah 5:20; John 6:63; Romans 7:18

⁴⁷ Job. 23:14; Psalm 138:8

⁴⁸ Psalm 40:7-8; Hebrew 10:5-9