

Stages of Regeneration

Overview

Because of Adam's sin, God has had to lead man from the Adamic fall back (Rom 5:17) towards the maturity of being adults in the family of God (Rom 8:14, 19-23). This journey of redemption proceeds logically through several stages, first of destruction and then gradual regeneration as God found men and women who would partner with Him. The stages of this redemptive process are generally called ages; and each age begins and ends with a specific incident.

1. Age of Obedience
 - a) The period is from creation of the Garden of Eden to the Fall of Adam.
 - b) God provided a paradise for Adam to enjoy, keep and protect. Gen 1-2
 - c) On the day that Adam ate the forbidden fruit, he died. Gen 2:17
 - d) Since Adam had authority over everything, God could not interfere when satan, as a serpent, tempted Eve. Gen 3:1-7
2. Age of Death
 - a) The period is from the Fall of Adam to Moses i.e., from Adam's sin to the giving of the Ten Commandments by God to Moses.
 - b) Adam sinned and died spiritually. He died physically at 930 years. Gen 2:17
The generational curse of death passed from Adam to his descendants.
 - c) Death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression (*i.e. direct disobedience*). Rom 5:14
 - d) Even so, obedience triumphed over death with Enoch and Abraham.
3. Age of Law
 - a) The Period is from the giving of the Law (i.e., the Ten Commandments) to Moses until Jesus entered the Temple in Heaven and poured His Blood on the Mercy Seat. Until Jesus did this, no one could be born again. The most important aspect of the Age of Grace is salvation through the Blood of Jesus.
 - b) The Law was given by God to Moses. Ex 20
Till the law, sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Rom 5:13
The wages of sin are death. Rom 6:23
 - c) Even so, obedience and consecration triumphed over death with Elijah.
 - d) Moses, representing the Law, disobeyed God and died. Elijah, representing the spirit, was taken up by a chariot of fire. 2 Ki 2:11
4. Age of Grace
 - a) The period is from the moment when Jesus poured His Blood on the Mercy Seat until Rev 8:1, after which God pours out His judgment on the ungodly..
 - 1) For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. John 1:17
 - b) Salvation under Grace.
 - 1) For whosoever shall call on the Name of the Lord shall be saved. Acts 2:21
 - c) Living under Grace.
 - 1) Our Saviour Jesus Christ, Who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. 2 Ti 1:10
 - 2) Jesus destroyed him that had the power of death, that is, the devil. Heb 2:14

- 3) As sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord. Rom 5:21
 - for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness. Rom 6:19
- 4) Nevertheless, to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded Rom 8:6 is life and peace.
- d) Ending of the Age of Grace.
 - 1) The time will come when all will have made a choice to be saved or to be damned.
 - There shall be joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth. Luk 15:7
 - And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. .. angels given seven trumpets. Rev 8:1
Rev 8:2
 - 2) The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. 1Co 15:26
 - 3) And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them. Rev 9:6
5. Age of the Church
 - a) The Period is from the moment after His Resurrection, when Jesus breathed on them and they received the Holy Spirit and were born again, until the Glorious Church is raptured at the return of Jesus. John 20:22-23
1Ths 4:15-17
Note that on the Day of Pentecost they were baptized in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues, which started the Age of Church Ministry.
 - b) The Church under Grace – From Jesus poured His Blood on the Mercy Seat to start of 7th Trumpet. Rev 10:7
 - 1) The Age of Grace ends with Rev 8:2, the giving of the Seven Trumpets. No longer can anyone be saved by Grace but, I believe, that the Glorious Church continues on with the Grace of God until Rev 10:7, when the “mystery of God should be finished.”. This is the beginning of the manifested sons of God.
 - 2) That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. Eph 5:27
 - 3) In the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his prophets. Rev 10:7
 - 4) To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: Col 1:27
 - c) The Church under Law - from 7th trumpet to end of Armageddon. Rev 19:21
 - 1) And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. Rev 11:3
And if any man will hurt them, fire proceeds out of their mouth, and devours their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed. Rev 11:5
 - 2) And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, v10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: Rev 14:9

- d) The Church Reigning in Life - from the manifested sons of God until Rev 22.
 - 1) For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ. Rom 5:17
 - 2) Has made us unto our God kings & priests: and we shall reign on the earth. Rev 5:10
 - 3) And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. Rev 11:15
6. Age of Perfection
 - a) The period is from the Rapture (1Thes 4:17) to the Great White Throne. Rev 20:15
 - b) Living in Perfection.
 - 1) Leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God. Heb 6:1
 - 2) For by one offering He hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified. Heb 10:14
 - c) Partnering with the Holy Spirit.
 - 1) O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you? Gal 3:1
This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? v3. Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh? Gal 3:2
 - 2) He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father. Rev 3:5
 - d) Avoiding the Second Death.
 - 1) They lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the **first resurrection**. Rev 20:2-6
Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years. Rev 20:6
 - 2) And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, Rev 20:11
And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. Rev 20:12
The sea gave up the dead which were in it; & death & hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. Rev 20:13
Death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the **second death**. Rev 20:14,15
And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.
But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death. Rev 21:8