

3:3. The believers Peter was writing to had become born again. Have you?

They were born not with corruptible seed but incorruptible. That means the new nature cannot sin! Can never sin! John points this out in his first epistle:

1John 3:9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

Any time a believer (a born again person) sins it is because he has allowed the old, Adamic, sinful nature to control his thoughts and actions. When we were first born into this world we had but one nature, SIN. When we were born again we then have two, sin and life in Christ. Soon, when the Lord returns (or if we should die first) we will be rid of the SIN nature we were naturally born with and have only one nature, a sinless nature, CHRIST. Jesus, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin, Mary, was sinless from birth. He remained sinless His whole earthly life and is still the sinless Man, having laid down His life and now risen and ascended and seated on God's right hand, awaiting His Bride and His Kingdom.

2Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

1Peter 2:22 Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:

1John 3:5 And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.

Now by the saving and sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit in us we have acquired brothers and sisters in Christ whom we truly love (*phileo*, affectionately). This love is **unfeigned**, not in hypocrisy, not "put on" or faking it as we so often are likely to do with others we don't really "like." Knowing that we actually **have** in our new hearts unfeigned love for them we are commanded to love (*agape*, undeserved, unreturned tender loving care and concern as per 1Corinthians 13) them fervently (intently). This *agape* love is to be with a pure heart, (cleansed and clean) and not mere human affection which surges and wanes with our moods and our experiences with them, and may degenerate into lust. A pure heart! What a wonder! A living, breathing human being with a **pure heart**? Let it so be with us brethren. We have the new nature, the Holy Spirit in us the desire and the power and the love to have a pure heart.