

# WHAT IS THE MEANING OF A NEW CREATURE IN CHRIST?

## TEXT:

**2 Corinthians 5:17: Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a *New Creature*: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.**



How many of you really have stopped to think of what being a Christian means?



I wonder — what is this New Life in Christ?

The Bible says *all things are become new*.

You may say, we are to be something different from what we have been.

Yes, but what is the Old Life that is left behind? What is the New Creature? We are now going on an entirely new course. It is a Christ-like Life.

## THE CHRIST-LIKE LIFE

There are too many shallow and superficial professors of religion.

If the Divine Life of Jesus does not show forth in your life, or is not made manifest in you, then we better be sure we have come the Right Way, and to the Right Person.



I would not know how to believe in Christ for myself if I had not come by way of the Bible and seen the Bible experience manifested in me. In order for that to happen in each of us, we must depend upon His Grace to help us walk in obedience to His Word, as did the Apostle Paul.

“Sinning religion” is not salvation, for salvation is deliverance from sin. O, poor, discouraged sinner, fascinated by your sin yet holding on to the devil and his crowd. Come to Jesus Who conquered sin at Calvary. Cling to Jesus, and He will draw you away into the new path of righteousness. He that is born of the Spirit of God doeth righteousness. You will find that Jesus has certainly transformed you into His likeness, for a Christian is Christ-like.

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## **THIS NEW CREATURE**

Where is the change? Where is it? Is it in the mind?

It is not a change of mind. It is a change of heart, and the heart changes the mind. A Christian is one who has Christ Jesus in his heart. It thus brings us to an entirely new world, as different from the intellectual and emotional.



Many sinners are devout people and pray among false religions. Like Cornelius, one of the highest type of heathen and the inspired writer of Acts tells us, he was not a Christian. For while the heavenly message came to him that his prayers and alms are come as a memorial before God, it was added in connection with

his summons for Peter to come to him and tell the words by which, “thou and thy house shall be saved.”

***Acts 11:14: Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved.***

Certainly he was not yet saved. The change came when Christ was preached and the baptism of the Holy Spirit followed.

***Thousands profess salvation, but the test must be made on all professions.***

Are you a New Creature in Christ?

**The Blood of Jesus, alone, makes Safe; the Word of God makes Sure, and the testimony of the Holy Spirit makes Secure, so we can know our experience of being in Christ.**

If you are a New Creature in Christ, do you think there will be a difference in the use of your life, hands, feet, voice, and possessions?

Have you sung the words to the following song . . .

***Have Thine Own way  
Hold over my being absolute sway  
Filled with Thy Spirit till all can see  
Christ only always living in me***



. . . and yet you have not allowed the Lord to do what it says, nor have you any such intention

Do you sing the lyrics . . .

***“Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee”?*** Is it?

***“Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of Thy Love.”***

Who can imagine yielded hands playing cards and smoking cigarettes and fighting?

***“Take my feet and let them be, swift and beautiful for Thee” -***

Can you imagine yielded feet on the discotheque dance floor?

***“Take my voice and let me sing, always, only – for my King” -***

Who can imagine a yielded voice singing the silly songs of this world, using this voice to hurt a fellow Christian?

***“Take my silver and my gold . . . not a mite would I withhold”***

Are you holding on to it with all your might?



**A Christian, a New Creature in Christ, is not only surrendered, but he is also separated.**

***2 Corinthians 6:17: “Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate,” saith the Lord, “and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.”***

**The early Christians were a peculiar people.** Christians were despised and derided as outcasts from society. The world and its interest meant nothing to them. What kind of a half-breed mixture Christians today? Paul and Peter would not be found in the amusement houses and frolics of the ungodly.

Persecution failed to stop the Church. It was not fashionable to belong to the Church in that day, but something has changed, for it is the most popular thing now.

Christians are to be separated, not only from the world, but also from sin. Pharisees were separated, but not from sin.

The early Church was Spirit-filled and it was surprising to meet disciples who were not filled. Today, it is surprising to meet one who is.



Real salvation will change our walk, talk, our looks, and desires.

## **REAL SALVATION IS TO BE IN CHRIST.**

What does this mean?

***Romans 6:3: Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death?***

***Romans 8:1: There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.***

***1 Corinthians 1:2: Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:***

***1 Corinthians 3:1: And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ.***

***1 Corinthians 15:22: For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.***

***2 Corinthians 1:21: Now He which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God;***

**2 Corinthians 2:14:** *Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of His knowledge by us in every place.*

**2 Corinthians 11:3:** *But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.*



**2 Corinthians 12:2:** *I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third Heaven.*

**Galatians 1:22:** *And was unknown by face unto the churches of Judaea which were in Christ:*

**Galatians 2:4:** *And that because of false brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage:*

**Galatians 3:28:** *There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.*

**Galatians 6:15:** *For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a **New Creature**.*

**Ephesians 1:1:** *Paul, an Apostle of Jesus Christ by the Will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:*

**Ephesians 2:10:** *For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*

**Ephesians 2:13:** *But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the Blood of Christ.*

**Philippians 1:1:** *Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:*

**Philippians 4:21:** *Salute every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren which are with me greet you.*

**Colossians 1:1:** *Paul, an Apostle of Jesus Christ by the Will of God, and Timotheus our brother,*

**1 Thessalonians 4:16:** *For the Lord Himself shall descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:*



**2 Timothy 1:1:** *Paul, an Apostle of Jesus Christ by the Will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus,*

**2 Timothy 1:13:** *Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.*

**2 Timothy 2:1:** *Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.*

**James 2:10:** *For whosoever shall keep the whole Law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.*

**James 3:12:** *Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.*

**Jude 1-2:**

**<sup>1</sup>** *Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:*

**<sup>2</sup>** *Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied.*

Being a Christian through faith in the Lord Jesus gives, at once, a jubilant and triumphant tone in becoming a New Creature in Christ. We live in the midst of a pretty low-toned, feeble, and sickly Christianity; and it is a crime that many do not have the right start with Christ as they must have. Many times we want to — and are urged to — warn and guard you against beginning the Christian life without a definite known- experience with Christ.

**The result of the New Creature life is obedience.** It depends upon what a man obeys as to what that man is. Personal obedience to Christ Who hath delivered us from the wrath to come gives us eternal life without money or price; and He is deserving of our best. What He has done for us makes Him worthy of exacting our obedience. We will grow in rights of His Grace into strong, healthy Christians by complete obedience to His Words.

**How shall I become a Christian?** It is simply by obeying the demands of Jesus upon a sinner, and upon entering this New Life that comes to a man when he has put himself in personal obedience to the Lord Jesus; and in this obedience we can watch ourselves grow and rejoice in Christ.

There is only one thing that is the making of a Christian, and that is a personal relationship with Christ Jesus; that is, to be in Christ, to stay in His Company, and to put Him first.

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Our lives are shaped and molded for eternity by utter obedience to our wonderful Saviour. What made Paul the strong, healthy saint that he was?

***Acts 26:19: I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision.***

Jesus was Lord and Master of his life, and he counted all things but loss to gain or win Christ. Christ was the center of his life, and so it must be for every Christian.

***Galatians 2:20: I live, yet not I - but Christ liveth in me.***

A Christian is not entering into a New Life where a system of new duties and rules are forced upon him. Rather, it's entering into a New Life which is so near to Jesus — since we are made nigh by His Blood — that we become like Him. That is what it is to be a Christian — **a New Creature.**



Oh Christian, remember this at the very beginning of your walk with Christ. It is being united with Christ.

**Colossians 2:6-8:**

***6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him:***

***7 Rooted and built up in Him, and stablished in the Faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.***

***8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.***

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