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# **A New Creature**

## **Part 2**

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## Introduction

In 2 Corinthians 5:17 it says, **“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”**

Do Christians understand what it means by **“...all things are become new?”** Until we understand spiritual things, we will still be conformed to this world. This is not good to say the least. As long as Christians are still conformed to this world, Satan will still have a certain amount of control in their lives.

Among many Churches today, calling themselves Christians, they do not know what 2 Corinthians 5:17 is talking about. They read the Scriptures, they quote the Scriptures, but they do not have spiritual understanding of what the Scriptures are saying.

Christians have two lives. They have soul life (called psuche in the Greek). They also have spirit life (called zoe in the Greek). They were born into this world with soul life (in Adam) and when they became born again they received spirit life (in Christ). Now they must choose which life will be in control of what they do while here on the earth?

In many places, the Bible uses terms like the “inward man or the outward man,” or “old man or new man,” or “born of the flesh and born of the spirit,” etc. These are all talking about two births, an old creature and a new creature.

Jesus said in John 3:6, **“That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.”** In this life here on earth we still have both lives, and we must choose which one we will follow, the flesh or the spirit. In Romans 8:5 it says, **“For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.”** Romans 8:5 is talking about Christians. Which life will Christians choose to follow? Will they choose the life of the flesh (psuche), or will they choose the life of the spirit (zoe)?

In Romans 12:2 it says, **“...be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”** God’s perfect will is that we are no longer conformed to this world. Before we were born again we were conformed to this world. Those who are still walking after the flesh are still conformed to this world. Those who are walking after the spirit are no longer conformed to this world.

When Christians are no longer conformed to this world, they will operate in the same anointing that Jesus operated in. In John 17:15,16, Jesus said, **“I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil...They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.”** Jesus was in this world, but He was not of this world.

In the new birth (born of the Spirit), Christians are not of this world. But we still have a body of flesh and bones. We are still in this world to do the will of God the Father. Now, we must learn how to do the will of God the Father from our spirit, rather than from the flesh.

To do the will of God the Father, we must know what it means to be **“in Christ.”** Many Christians today do not have any idea of what it truly means to be “in Christ.” Yet, this should be the most important revelation anyone could ever receive. Knowing what it means to be “in Christ” can and should transform our lives that we will no longer live like the world lives (Rom. 12:2).

Christians are **“new creatures”** in Christ. When we were born again, we became **“a new creature.”** All things became new. The problem that Christians have is in understanding what the

Scriptures is talking about when it says in 2 Corinthians 5:17, “...all things are become new.”

We should start by searching the Scriptures for information concerning our new birth in Christ. In Romans 8:9 it says “**But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.**” If we are in the Spirit and not in the flesh, then we should find out what happened when we became born again?

This is very important, for if we do not understand spiritual things, how can we know who we are in Christ? There are many things we need to learn about spiritual things. When we understand spiritual things, then we can walk after the Spirit and not after the flesh.

In Romans 8:1,2 it says, “**There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit...For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.**” We need to understand spiritual things, that we no longer walk after the flesh, but instead, we should walk after the Spirit.

This is where it takes the renewing of our mind, to understand spiritual things. As we renew our mind, we will be transformed from walking after the flesh to walking after the Spirit. Transformation takes place from the inside out. Religion works from the outside in, to try to control what people do. This is what happened when the law of sin and death came into this world.

The law of sin and death came when Adam and Eve ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. The minds of people became corrupted by the thoughts that came from the spirits of this world. We see evidence of this already in Genesis 3:1-6, where Eve considered the words spoken to her by the serpent. Eve listened to the serpent, and she became deceived, and did eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Then she gave to Adam and he did eat also. This corruption that came upon mankind in the garden of Eden must be overcome by walking after the spirit and not after the flesh.

## **CHRIST THE HEAD of the BODY**

In Colossians 1:18, speaking of Jesus Christ, it says, **“And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.”** The words, “the head,” are not literal words, but rather are “metaphoric words,” meaning “the first, the beginning, the supreme, the chief.”

Many times Christians take the word “head” as meaning the head of a human body (as though the head and the body are two different parts). They think of the head as where the brain and intellect are (which controls the functions of the body). This is not what the Word of God is talking about.

As an example, in 1 Corinthians 12:12-30 it speaks of the body of Christ. In this, it speaks of one member being the foot, another member being the hand, another member being the ear, another member being the eye, etc. That is using the words “one body” symbolically, which includes the parts of the head of a body. By this the words “one body” includes the eyes, the ears, the mouth, etc.

Those of the body of Christ are “a new creation of mankind,” a spiritual body with Christ as the beginning of this new creation of mankind (God and man joined together in one spirit).

Adam was the head of mankind “in the flesh.” Christ is the head of mankind “in the spirit.” These are two different creations of mankind. It is like in the heavens where there are two different types of spiritual beings (there are angels and there are demons). Angels are not demons and demons are not angels. Likewise, here on earth there are two different types of mankind, there are those who are in the flesh of Adam and there are those who are in the Spirit of Christ. These are two different creations of mankind. Therefore, it says in 1 Corinthians 15:21,22, **“For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead...For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.”**

Adam was a man (the beginning of mankind in the flesh). Jesus was a man (the beginning of mankind in the Spirit). Adam and Christ are not the same. Adam was the first creation of man, created of this earth, as an earthly being. Therefore, Adam was earthly of this earth (Gen. 2:7; 1 Cor. 15:45-48).

Jesus “Christ” is a new creation of man, created by God in the Spirit (1 Cor. 15:47-49). Therefore, Christ is a second creation of mankind, not created of earthly substance, but of spiritual substance from heaven above.

In John 17:16, Jesus said, **“They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.”** This is a statement made by Jesus that Christians need to understand. It is very important that we live according to this statement. It is the Word of God, and we need to live by the Word of God.

What Christians need to understand is that they are no longer in the flesh of Adam, but in the Spirit of Christ. They are a new creation (a second creation of mankind). The second creation of mankind in Christ is spiritual, whereas the first creation was natural, of the flesh (of the elements of this earth). Although, we still have a body of flesh, we are not in the flesh of Adam, but in the Spirit of Christ (Rom. 8:9).

Even though we still have a body of flesh and bones, and a living soul (which contains our mind, will, intellect, reasoning, and etc.), God says, we are **“a new creature in Christ”** (2 Cor. 5:17).

This is where the Devil gets Christians in his snare. The Devil has Christian's minds filled with his idea of what is truth. The Devil tells Christians that they are still the same person they were before they were born again being they still have a mortal body of flesh and bones.

The Devil gets Christians to believe that, being they still think the way the world thinks and do things the way the world does things, they are still natural people. If Christians would renew their minds on the Word of God, they would no longer think the way the world thinks. They would be transformed to believe the Word of God rather than what they see, feel, smell, hear, and etc.

Many of the Churches today still agree with the Devils idea of what is truth. This is why it is so important that Christians renew their minds on the Word of God. Their thinking needs to be transformed into believing what God says (without any evidence in the natural).

In the natural we still have a mortal body of flesh and bones, our thoughts still agree with the worlds system of what we see, hear, feel, taste, and smell. When we get our minds renewed, we will think the way God thinks, and believe the way God believes. The way God thinks and believes is written in the Word of God. We need to change to believe the Word of God, not the way we believed before we were born again.

## Renewing the Mind

In Romans 12:1,2 it says, **“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service...And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”**

One thing about these two verses is that the translators added the Chapters and Verse numbers. In doing so, they separated verse one from verse two. This is not good for those who do not understand that you cannot do verse one without doing verse two. In order to present our bodies a living sacrifice, it must be done by a renewed mind. Those operating from their natural mind will try to present their bodies a living sacrifice according to the letter of the Law. It will not work, it will only be “works of the flesh,” and not transformation by the Word and the Spirit.

When our mind is transformed by the Word and the Spirit, the will and desires of the flesh will no longer dominate our bodies. Therefore, we will walk like Jesus walked. Jesus did not have any problems with His body of flesh and bones. As an example, Jesus walked after the Spirit and not after the flesh, therefore it was no problem for Jesus to walk on water (Matt. 14:25, Mark 6:48). Jesus did not have a problem when it came to multiply food. Using only five barley loaves and two small fishes, Jesus fed about five-thousand men, plus women and children (John 6:11).

What we do about renewing our mind will determine what will happen in our lives. When our mind is renewed to think the way God thinks, then “what we believe in our heart” will control what happens in our lives.

When our mind is renewed we will no longer think about our past, for in the spirit, we do not have a past “we are new creatures in Christ.” What happened before we were born again is no longer considered, it is gone (passed away). We are to live “in the spirit,” (in the now) according to the Word of God, not according to the natural mind of the natural man of the flesh. The natural man does not understand the things of the Spirit of God, for they are spiritually discerned (1 Cor. 2:14).

When we were born again we were set free of our past life in the flesh, by the Blood and Body of Jesus Christ. Jesus said in John 8:36, **“If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.”** “Free indeed,” implies totally and completely free of the past, everything that was not pleasing to God is gone and forgotten by God.

When we are free, we are to live according to the Word of God not according to the thoughts and intentions of the natural mind. But according to the renewed mind, transformed by the Word of God (Rom. 12:2).

The Word of God tells us, what we believe in our heart is what we receive. Our mind needs to be renewed, that we think the way God thinks, and believe the way God believes. God believes according to what He says in His Word. What God says is Truth, and is not a lie. What Satan says is a lie, for he was a liar from the beginning (John 8:44).

Christians must learn to believe like God believes and talk like God talks. In 2 Corinthians 5:17, God says, **“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”**

What Christians do not understand with their natural mind is that God lives in the now “according to eternity” not according to earthly time. God sees the end “of eternity,” from the beginning. God does not go according to what we see, feel, smell, hear, or taste. God goes by His

Word, which has declared the end from the beginning (Isa. 46:9,10). All throughout the Bible you will see this to be true. One example is in Joshua 6:2, where it says, **“And the LORD said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour.”** Joshua needed to see that Jericho was already defeated before he went to battle against Jericho.

Christians need to see what the Word says about the Devil. Jesus already defeated the Devil. Colossians 2:13-25 says, **“And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses...Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross...And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.”** Then in Revelation 1:18, Jesus said, **“I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.”**

Our enemy, the Devil, has already been defeated. We need to see the Devil as already defeated when destroying the works of the Devil among people. To Joshua, the LORD said, **“See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour.”** To Christians, the LORD is saying, **“See, I have already overcome the wicked one. The Devil is already defeated.”**

Jesus defeated the Devil, stripping him of his power. Now, being new creatures in Christ Jesus, we are to take possession of that which belongs to the Body of Christ. We are heirs and joint-heirs with Christ of everything that Jesus took from the Devil, including the keys of death and hell.

When Christians use “the name of Jesus” against the Devil, “we should know,” beyond all doubt that what we say will come to pass. When we command sickness and disease to leave someone’s body, it will leave, it has no choice, for the name of Jesus is above every name. When we command an evil spirit to leave a body, that spirit will leave. Jesus said, “it is already done,” now use the name of Jesus and you will see the victory.

Just like the LORD told Joshua, “See, it is already done!” Now walk around the city once each day for six days, then on the seventh day, walk around the city seven times, and blow the horns and shout and the walls will come down” (Joshua 6:3-5).

Christians should speak, using “the name of Jesus” against the spirits, and the works of the Devil, knowing that what they say will come to pass.

Jesus said to His disciples in Luke 10:19, **“Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.”** Christians have the same authority to use Jesus’ name as His disciples had. What was effective then is still effective today.

God’s Word was settled from the foundation of the world. God goes by His Word, not the thoughts of the minds of people. Christians need to see that according to the Word of God, they are already “new creatures in Christ.” Even though in the natural, our physical bodies are still mortal, and our souls are still corrupted.

God lives by speaking things that are not as though they were (Rom. 4:17). That is how God created the heavens and the earth (Heb. 11:3). God speaks things into existence (things that cannot be seen appear according to the spoken Word of God).

When Christians see things according to what God said in His Word, then they can walk like

Jesus walked and live like Jesus lived. Then, Christians will be able to walk after the Spirit and not after the flesh (Rom. 8:1,2; Gal. 5:16,17, 25).

In the natural thinking, man believes he is still like those in Adam, being that our bodies are still “mortal” (having sickness, disease, and progressing toward death). According to man’s thinking, man still has sickness and disease in his body, which is a sign of mortality and corruption caused by sin.

There are things about that kind of thinking, that proves our minds are not renewed, and transformed. First, we would not have sickness and disease in our bodies if we believed the Word of God with all our heart. God’s Word says, **“We are already healed by the stripes that Jesus bore for us in His death on the Cross”** (Isa. 53:4,5; Matt. 8:17; 1 Peter 2:24).

When we truly believe the Word of God with our whole heart, we will not have sickness and disease in our bodies. The problem is that **“Christians are believing according to what they see, feel, smell, hear, and etc.”** Their mind is not transformed to believe like God believes.

God tells us to speak things that are not as though they were (Rom. 4:17). According to what we believe in our heart and speak out of our mouth, that is what we receive. If our heart and our speaking do not agree with the Word of God, we are still following the ways of the Devil, who is the god of this world.

When we become transformed by the renewing of our minds on the Word of God we will live according to the Word of God. The transformation that takes place will manifest in our lives. **“According to what we believe, so shall it be.”**

## Our Position in Christ

In the New Birth (born of the Spirit), the Word of God says, **“...all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses”** (Acts 13:39). Justified means, “innocent, not guilty.” Those who have their minds renewed on the Word of God will live like Jesus lived. Jesus was justified in everything He did.

Being that we are in Christ Jesus and Christ dwells in us, we are **“joint-heirs with Christ”** (Rom. 8:17). Being a joint-heir means that we partake of everything Christ partakes of. Therefore, 1 John 4:17 says, **“...as he is, so are we in this world.”**

The Word of God also says, that we are sanctified, **“For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one...”** (Heb. 2:11). Jesus sanctified Himself, that those who are in Him are also sanctified. Sanctified means “made Holy.” Those who have their minds renewed on the Word of God will live a holy life, not giving the Devil any place in their lives.

The Word of God says in 2 Corinthians 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.”** Did God do in Jesus what it says? If He did not, then we could say God lied. But God cannot lie. Therefore, we must become transformed by the renewing of our minds that we live righteously.

In 1 John 2:29 it says, **“If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.”** When it says, **“doeth righteousness”** it is talking about living a holy life.

Christians must get their minds renewed and become transformed to live according to “the new creature in Christ,” not according to “the old man of the flesh.” Christians must live as true children of God, cleansed by the Blood of Jesus Christ daily as they walk in the Light as He is in the Light (1 John 1:5-7).

Our whole life should be lived in Christ, by the anointing which we have received when we were Baptized in the Holy Spirit. In 1 John 2:27 it says, **“But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.”** As we abide in Christ, which is the anointing of the Holy Spirit, we will be taught and led by the Holy Spirit. Everything we do will glorify God, and Christ Jesus (who is the Head of the Body of Christ). To glorify God, we must live in this world the same way Jesus lived in this world.

Everyday is a new day in our lives. The things of yesterday, and everything of the past is gone. We should never look back at the past and let the past have anything to do with what we do today. God lives in “the now,” not in the past. We must live in “the now,” and not in the past.

In 2 Corinthians 4:16 it says, **“For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.”** Everyday, we are renewed in the inward man (the man of the Spirit in Christ).

Those who talk about the past, and those who keep bringing up the past are not being led by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit never goes contrary to the Word of God or the Blood of Jesus.

In 1 John 5:8, it says, **“And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water (the Word), and the blood: and these three agree in one.”** The Holy Spirit always agrees with the Word of God and the Blood of Jesus. The Word of God tells us who we are in Christ. The

Blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin.

The seal of our covenant with God is **“the Blood of the everlasting covenant”** (Heb. 13:20). Everlasting means “it still works today in our lives just as it did when we were first redeemed by the Blood.”

## The flesh or the Spirit?

Those who walk after the flesh, live like the world lives (according to their natural minds). Christians are not to live according to their natural minds, but by the Word of God.

Christians who keep talking about the sins of others are not being led by the Holy Spirit, but another spirit is working in their minds. Romans 2:1 says, **“O man, whosever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things.”**

In 1 John 1:8, it says, **“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”** Christians do sin, but they are cleansed by the Blood of Jesus everyday that they walk in the Light. How can those who do sin, condemn another for sin? The Blood of Jesus that cleanses us, also cleanses them.

Divisions in the Body of Christ are caused by religious spirits, who justify themselves while condemning others. These are not walking after the Spirit, but rather after the flesh. Many Churches today are walking after the flesh and not after the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit does not condemn Christians, He sets them free of all condemnation.

The Word of God tells us, those who are in Christ, are **“Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead”** (Col. 2:12). This is what God says about us. Will we believe God? Also, it says, God **“...hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus”** (Eph. 2:6). This is God’s Word, and God cannot lie. Will we believe God’s Word, and take our place in the realm of the spirit over the works of the Devil?

Therefore, being our position is in Christ, we are no longer in the flesh but in the Spirit (Rom. 8:9). We are not of this world, but born from above (John 17:16). We are a new creature in Christ, the old creature is passed away. This is what God is telling us.

Amos 3:3 says, **“Can two walk together, except they be agreed?”** Will we agree with God and believe all that God says about us? Or, will we disagree with God and continue to live like the world lives?

Victory will always come when we agree with the Word of God, and believe in our heart that which God has said is true. The Truth will always set us free. We must walk after the Spirit and not after the flesh to be free. Those who love the world and the things of this world are still walking after the flesh. God can only help those who walk after the Spirit and not after the flesh.

God’s Word is Truth, and truth will overcome any lies of the Devil. Jesus said, “we should know the Truth and the Truth will set us free”

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