

“BEING A NEW CREATION IN JESUS CHRIST”

2 CORINTHIANS 5:14-21

TEXT: VERSE 17

INTRO: Last Sunday morning the Lord led us to study what I have often referred to as **THE MOST SOMBER AND SERIOUS TEXT IN ALL OF THE WORD OF GOD**. The text is Matthew 7:21-23. I would like to read that text again as we begin this morning’s message. The point of the passage is that **JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF IS TEACHING THAT AT THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT THERE WILL BE MANY RELIGIOUS PEOPLE STAND BEFORE HIM AND CLAIM THEY HAD DONE MANY RELIGIOUS THINGS, BUT YET THEY HAD NO REAL RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM AND THUS HE WILL SAY, “DEPART FROM ME, I NEVER KNEW YOU.” CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT THAT WILL BE LIKE? PERSONALLY, I CANNOT**. So, the question I have for you right now is **ARE YOU CERTAIN THAT YOU ARE TRULY SAVED, OR ARE YOU JUST RELIGIOUS WITHOUT HAVING A TRUE RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CHRIST?** This morning, I want to follow up on last week’s message by taking a look at 2 Corinthians 5:17 that teaches us what it means to be a **NEW CREATURE IN JESUS CHRIST**. The fact of the matter is that when a person comes to Christ, **HIS ENTIRE LIFE CHANGES, HE DOES NOT REMAIN THE SAME OLD UNREGENERATE PERSON BUT HAS NEW LIFE IN CHRIST**. If you claim to be saved and yet the old way of your sinful life remains, then from the biblical perspective you are simply **RELIGIOUS WITHOUT A RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST**. So, let’s study 2 Corinthians 5:17 to see what the **WORD OF GOD** has to say about **BEING A NEW CREATION IN JESUS CHRIST**.

**WHEN ONE IS TRULY SAVED THERE ARE FOUR NEW UNDENIABLE EVIDENCES OF THAT SALVATION
ACCORDING TO 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17.**

I. A TRUE BIBLICAL CHRISTIAN HAS A GODLY POSITION IN CHRIST

**A TRUE CHRISTIAN IS “IN CHRIST” POSITIONALLY
“IF ANY MAN BE IN CHRIST”**

(THE LITERAL TRANSLATION IS “ANYONE” NOT JUST “ANY MAN”)

TO BE “IN CHRIST” MEANS:

- A. One has been **ACCEPTED** by Christ – Ephesians 1:6
- B. One has **SECURITY** in Christ – 1 Peter 1:3-5
- C. One has **PARTICIPATION** with Christ – 2 Peter 1:2-4
- D. One has a **FUTURE** with Christ – John 14:2,3

II. A TRUE BIBLICAL CHRISTIAN IS A GRAND PRODUCTION IN CHRIST

“HE IS A NEW CREATURE”

NOTE ONE: The Greek word for **“NEW”** does not refer to **NEW IN TIME**, but rather **NEW IN FORM OR QUALITY, DIFFERENT IN NATURE, CONTRASTED TO THE OLD**. (Cp. Ephesians 2:1-7)

NOTE TWO: The Greek word for **“CREATURE”** means a **NEW CREATION**.

- A. The Production of the Creation of the New Birth – John 3:3,5,7
- B. The Production of the Creation of the New Man– Ephesians 4:22-24

III. A TRUE BIBLICAL CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCES A GREAT PASSING IN CHRIST

“OLD THINGS ARE PASSED AWAY”

NOTE: Many times, we use the phrase **“PASSED AWAY”** to refer to someone who has died which means that he or she has been separated from physical life once and for all. By way of the textual application, when a person comes to Christ, at the **POINT OF THEIR SALVATION, THEY HAVE SPIRITUALLY DIED TO OLD THINGS ONCE AND FOR ALL**.

- A. A True Christian has **“PASSED AWAY”** from former Desires.
-Colossians 3:5-10
- B. A True Christian has **“PASSED AWAY”** from a former Destiny.
-Luke 16:19-31

IV. A TRUE BIBLICAL CHRISTIAN RECEIVES A GLORIOUS PERSPECTIVE IN CHRIST

“ALL THINGS ARE BECOME NEW”

NOTE: The word “ALL” refers to **EVERYTHING THAT APPLIES TO OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD IN OUR SPIRITUAL DIMENSION.**

NOTE: The word “BECOME” means to be “**NEWLY ASSEMBLED AND TO CONTINUE IN THAT NEWLY ASSEMBLED CONDITION.**”

NOTE: The word “NEW” is the same as previously mentioned in the verse meaning **NEW IN FORM OR QUALITY, DIFFERENT IN NATURE, CONTRASTED TO THE OLD.**”

- A. All New Attitude – The Attitude of **LOVE** - 1 John 4:7,8
- B. All New Affections – The Affection for **HOLINESS** - Colossians 3:1-3
- C. All New Anticipation – The Anticipation of **HEAVEN** – 2 Corinthians 5:6-8

LESSONS AND APPLICATION

IF A PERSON CLAIMS TO BE SAVED, BUT EXPERIENCES NO NEW CHRIST-LIKE QUALITIES IN HIS LIFE, HE IS ONLY RELIGIOUS BUT HAS NO RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST. PLEASE DO NOT ATTEMPT TO “EXPLAIN THIS AWAY.” A TRUE CHISTIAN IS A TOTALLY NEW PERSON IN CHRIST WITH A NEW LIFESTYLE THAT HONORS AND GLORIFIES GOD IN ALL THINGS. IF THAT DOES NOT DESCRIBE YOUR LIFE, THEN YOU ARE ONLY RELIGIOUS WITHOUT A TRUE RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST. TRUST JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR SAVIOR TODAY AND EXPERIENCE THE REALITY OF FULL AND COMPLETE NEW LIFE IN CHRIST WITH ALL OF ITS BENEFITS AND BLESSINGS.