

## 2 Corinthians 5:17

"Wherefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature: the old things are passed away; behold, they are become new."

# A Christian is..

- "In Christ"
  - o "Baptized into Christ" Galatians 3:26-
  - Location of all "spiritual blessings"
    - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ" (Ephesians 1:3)

## Some spiritual blessings in Christ...

- No condemnation Romans 8:1
- Free from law of sin & death Romans 8:2
- Sanctification 1 Corinthians 1:2
- Made alive 1 Corinthians 15:22
- Victory 1 Corinthians 15:55-57
- Partakers of His promise Ephesians 3:6
- Children of God Galatians 3:26-28
- New creatures Galatians 6:15

## Christians have a new relationship to...

- Christ! Romans 8:16-17
- God! Galatians 1:3-4
- Other Christians! Galatians 6:1
- The world!
  - "Transformed" not "conformed" to it!
    Romans 12:1-2
    1 John 2:15
- Sin!
  - "Servants of righteousness"

    Romans 6:16-18

  - Cannot continue in sinful relationships of the past, i.e. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

### **Fornication Defined** Fornication - "Prostitution, uncreasity, fornication, of every kind of unlawful intercourse." (Walter Bauer, A Greek - English Lexicon Of The New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature, page 693) Adultery Romans 7:2-3 Incest Lesbianism Bestiality Thaver says, "prop. of illicit sexual interco in general." (page 532). Pedophilia Generally, the word "fornication" refers to unlawful sexual intercourse of the unmarried (in order to avoid fornication, one is to marry: 1 Corinthians 7:2-5). However, the term is applied also to illicit sexual intercourse of married people (1 Corinthians 5:1; Revelation 2:20). Prostitution Polygamy Homosexuality Concubinage

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### New Manner of Life in Christ!

#### New Thoughts!

- Spiritual vs. carnal mind! Romans 8:6-7
  - Fleshly mind root of most problems! –
     1 Corinthians 3:1-3
- Mind heavenly vs. earthly things! Colossians 3:2-4
  - Just passing through!
  - o Hebrews 11:10-16; 1 Peter 2:11-12
  - Temporary suffering but eternal joy!
  - Romans 8:18; Hebrews 11:24-25; 2 Corinthians 4:8-18: 5:1-7
  - Not consumed by the temporal things!
    - o Matthew 6:24-34; Philippians 4:4-7

# New Manner of Living in Christ

#### New Thoughts:

- Pure versus former filthy mind! –
   Philippians 4:8; 2 Corinthians 10:15
  - No appetite for filthy movies, etc.
- Seeks truth vs. error & lies!
  - Searches the scriptures Acts 17:11
  - Not taken captive by falsehoods Colossians 2:8-20; 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12

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# New Manner of Living in Christ

#### New Manner of Speech!

- Words of truth and soberness! Acts 26:25
  - Ephesians 4:25
- Words of purity! Colossians 3:8-10
- Words "seasoned with salt"! Colossians
   4.6
- Words measured out!
  - Proverbs 10:19; James 1:26
- Words properly directed!
  - Titus 1:13; Galatians 2:11

# New Manner of Living in Christ

- New Actions! 1 John 3:18
  - o New places to go! Worship, Bible classes!
  - New things to do! Study, teach, pray, serve others!
  - New things seen!
    - Sinners in need of salvation! John 4:35
      - "lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest" (John 4:35-NKJV)
    - Brethren who need to be edified! 1 Thessalonians 5:11
    - Brethren in physical need 1 John 3:17
    - The need for self-examination 2 Corinthians 13:5; 1

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# New Manner of Living in Christ

#### ■ New Actions! – 1 John 3:18

- New Clothing!
  - Physically Modest apparel!
    - o 1 Timothy 2:9
  - Spiritually "Clothed with humility"
    - o 1 Peter 3:3-4; 5:5-6
- New Companions! 1 Corinthians 15:33
  - No fellowship with darkness or error!
    - o 2 John 9-11; Ephesians 5:11-13; 1 Peter 4:1-6

## A New Hope

- Many hope for:
  - A comfortable retirement
  - Good health & good health care as we age
  - Better job & financial security
  - Happiness
  - o 1000-year reign with Christ on earth
  - A religious "experience" or better felt than told feeling!

### Christians Hope for Heaven!

- Abraham did Hebrews 11:13-16
- $\circ \quad \textit{``One Hope''}- \text{Ephesians 4:4; Colossians 1:5, 23; 1 Peter 1:3}$
- "Crown of Life" 2 Timothy 4:8; Revelation 2:10

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# Conclusion...

- "All things are become new"!
  - New Relationships!
  - New <u>Thoughts!</u>
  - o A New Manner of Speech!
  - New <u>Actions</u>!
  - o A New Hope!
- "Wherefore, if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things are passed away; behold they are become new"

### "What Shall We Do?"

Acts 2:37

- An alien sinner must...
  - Hear the Gospel Romans 10:17
  - o Believe Romans 10:10
  - o Repent Acts 17:30
  - o Confess Christ Acts 8:37
  - o Be Baptized in water Acts 2:38
- An erring Child of God must...
  - Repent and Pray Acts 8:22

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