

THE ONE NEW MAN IN CHRIST

What does it mean to be a “one new man in Christ?” This term is a conglomeration of two terms that are found in the scriptures. As such, there is no term such as the one just mentioned in the entire Bible. It is actually a mix of two terms that are found in the scriptures that, when combined, they can describe in general, who the true believer in Jesus truly is now because they believe and are in Jesus.

We find these two terms that I am referring to in three scriptures. They are Galatians 3:26-29, Galatians 6:15 and 2 Corinthians 5:17. They read as such:

Galatians 3:26-29 – *“For you are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷ For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 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. ²⁹ And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.”*

Galatians 6:15 – *“For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but **a new creature.**”*

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

The scripture also refers to the true believer in Jesus as the “new man.” We see this in the following scriptures:

Ephesians 2:15 – *“Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain **one new man**, so making peace...”*

Ephesians 4:24 – *“... that ye put on **the new man** which after God, is created in righteousness and true holiness.”*

Colossians 3:10 – *“... have put on **the new man**, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him...”*

A tremendous change occurs when a person becomes a **new creature** in Christ. His relationship to God now becomes as such:

- 1) We are justified – we change in our standing before God – we are now a child of God
- 2) We are regenerated – we change to that of the nature from God
- 3) There is an attitude of repentance – we recognize how frail we are and how sinless our God is
- 4) A conversion takes place – we desire to change our life to be like God – this done in the spirit realm
- 5) We are adopted into the family of God – we are His and His alone
- 6) An attitude of sanctification becomes part of our lives – we desire to live for and to serve our God
- 7) We are glorified – our status with God is changed. We are His and He is now ours. We are one.

The experience of becoming a new creation is totally radical to our natural way of rationally thinking. Let's be real and look at it in the way that it really is meant to be looked at. The true believer in Jesus now becomes, and is, a totally “new creature,” a “new species of being,” in, through and because of their acceptance of Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior.

The individual is literally “recreated” into something totally different than what they were. They were sinners on their way to hell. Now, because of Jesus, they have been totally renewed into a totally new species of being. They now are a child of God and on their way to heaven.

When you think of that, you can really truly grasp the fact that every one of God's children are, or they should be, totally different people within themselves. That may seem a little far-fetched but that is the truth. The child of God is a "new creation," a totally new and different species of being. We are different from any other creature or living thing that is upon this earth. We are "children of God."

This is because the real person has been totally changed. The real part of every individual is the person's "spirit – being." When we accept Jesus as our personal Lord and Savior, we become a totally different individual being – at least we should. This is what makes becoming a true child of God so very, very special.

It doesn't happen by just saying a "sinner's prayer," although that may start the process. However, it truly begins within the depths of the individual truly recognizing and acknowledging that they are on the path to eternal destruction (hell) and that they need something or someone to help them get out of that "fix."

You see that is what it was like as we take a look back in the New Testament and we see that John, the Baptist, first brought this truth into this world. He preached a message to repent of your sin **to prepare yourself** for the coming of the Messiah. The baptism that the people were receiving from him was not a mikveh (a ceremonial bath of cleansing) nor was it a cleansing type of immersion into water to cleanse you from the filth of the world.

The Jewish people were always doing that to "cleanse themselves" outwardly to prepare them to go and worship God whether in a synagogue or at the Temple itself. However, the "washing" was never really enough to cleanse them truly from their inner being that was so very sinful to actually come into the presence of God.

That "washing" was never enough to make them truly acceptable to and by God. That was why they then needed the sacrificial system. The sacrifices took their place in "dying for that person's sin." However, even that could never really bring them into total "holiness" before the true "holy God."

What they truly needed was a cleansing of the inward man to prepare them to become the carrier and courier of God's Kingdom to others and ultimately to the world. They needed their spirit to be renewed so that they could truly be made into what God wanted them to be – His child. They needed the perfect sacrifice to cleanse them from their sin once and for all. That is why Jesus came. He did it all for us.

John's baptism was a precursor to the true spiritual baptism – the baptism into the Body of Christ – that was getting ready to occur when Jesus came on the scene. We do see that Jesus' disciples under the auspices of Jesus did actually perform the same type of baptism that John did while Jesus was still on the earth. We see that in John 4:1-2.

What Jesus' disciples did and what John the Baptist did was literally a preparation for when those that truly recognized their sinfulness and truly wanted to repent would soon be able to "fall on the rock" of Jesus and truly repent through Him – the Son of God – and truly become "renewed" and "born from above," born of God and become that totally new species of being – a totally new creation in Jesus.

So what does that really mean? What does it really mean to be a "new creation? What does it really mean to be "born from above?"

To understand the "new creation," we must first understand that it is in fact simply a **totally new creation**. It is something that is created by God. It is not simply a "make-over" and making something better out of what was already there. That is why the example of the caterpillar changing into a butterfly does not really cut it when we speak of being born again.

No. It literally means something totally new. Just as God created everything out of nothing but His Word, the same now applies to every true born again child of God. We become someone totally new. Now, I know that it may not seem that way too many of us, but that is the actual truth. We are new creatures who are now in Jesus. We are now the children of the most High God.

John 1:12-13 tells us very clearly, *“But as many as received him, to them gave He (God) the power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: ¹³which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.”* This tells us that this new birth was brought about by the will of God.

We did not inherit the new nature from our parents or decide to re-create ourselves anew. Neither did God simply clean up our old nature. He created something entirely new, fresh and unique. The new creation is completely new, brought about from nothing. It is the same as when God created the whole universe from absolutely nothing – only His Word – which we know was and is Jesus. Only God, the Creator of all things, could accomplish such a feat.

In 2Corinthians 5:17, it clearly tell us that the “old things” have passed away. In Jesus, everything of our old nature and its ways has been totally demolished and is now dead. That old “sinful nature,” that sin filled person that I was, is now dead. Instead there is a new creature that God has created now living in this body.

That new creature is called the “new creature in Christ.” Yes, that individual becomes a totally new species of being – they are now a child of God. Why? It is because of what Jesus did over 2000 years ago. God can now communicate and receive us as His own because, when He now sees us, He chooses to see the “Jesus” in us. We are joint heirs along with Jesus to the Kingdom of God.

All things have become “new.” If we continue reading, we see in 2Corinthians 5:18 that we have been reconciled back to the Father because we are this new species of being – we are children of God. However, it doesn’t stop there. It goes on to tell us in verses 19 – 20 that God has made us His ambassadors and has given to each of us the ministry of reconciliation.

Yes, we are now able to be God’s ambassadors. We are to represent our God, not ourselves, just as Paul was and just as he was telling the Corinthian church. We are to represent God wherever and to whom ever we come in contact with. That means that we are to tell others that it is possible to be “born again” and become a new creation in Jesus. This means that we can be reconciled back into relationship with God and so can anyone else who hears the truth and receives that truth.

In 2Corinthians 5:21, we read the basic Gospel message of Jesus, *“For he hath made him (Jesus) to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”* Jesus who knew no sin had become sin for the sole purpose that anyone believing in what He did for us would ultimately be brought into right standing and have a true, intimate relationship with God, the Father, God, the Son and God, the Holy Spirit.

We are His people. That is important because Jesus will soon come back for His people. He will bring all of those who have entered into His presence with Him when He does return. And when He comes he will set up His Kingdom upon this earth for the millennial rule and reign (1000 years).

However, it starts now. It starts with every one of His true believers. The Gospel message is very simple. We must believe that Jesus is the Son of God and that He came in the flesh over 2000 years ago. We must believe that He did come in the flesh through a virgin, Mary, and that He lived for 33 years upon this earth. Every day while He was on this earth He was pointing people to the truth and to the Father.

We must believe that Jesus was crucified and died and that He went to the ultimate punishment of hell for the sins of everyone who was, is and will be living upon this earth. However, most importantly we must believe that Jesus defeated satan and His forces of darkness and that **He rose from the dead** and is now seated at the right hand of the Father. He is waiting, soon and very soon, to return for His 1000 year rule and reign upon this earth.

Until Jesus does return, He gave us His Holy Spirit to lead and guide each of us throughout our lives with the main purpose of telling others of the Good News of salvation through Jesus. However, we must always remember that Jesus will return and it will be soon.

We must always remember what Paul said to the people in Corinth – “be reconciled” unto God. We must realize that reconciliation is the result of the atoning blood of Jesus. Reconciliation is the end of the estrangement that took place between God and man because of man’s sin and his sinfulness. Reconciliation literally means that there is now peace between God and man – the man who accepts, believes and receives the atoning work of Jesus on the cross and His resurrection.

Jesus gave each of us, the true believers in Him, the message of reconciliation to pass on to the world. We are each called upon by God to be His witnesses wherever we may be and to tell others about the Good News of Jesus. We can do this through our words of love, our actions of love to others and our lifestyle that expresses His love to others. We can simply tell everyone we come in contact with about they can now have and receive salvation in and through Jesus.

Yes, salvation in and through Jesus.
That is the only way anyone can truly become that “one new man in Christ.”