

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

**New Births New
December 5, 2017
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2 Corinthians 5.16a-17

¹⁶ Therefore from now on **we recognize no one according to the flesh...** ¹⁷ **Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature [creation]; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.**

- When we were born again we were given a new nature; we were made a new creation.
- The word "behold" means to stop and look; to perceive and understand that EVERYTHING has changed. The old is gone. The core of our being has changed. We are now rooted in the new that our Father God has put into us. EVERYTHING about us is NEW.
- "Recognize no one by the flesh". Recognize is defined as to perceive by any of the senses. No longer examine, observe, experience, get knowledge, consider or evaluate by your senses – what it feels like, tastes like, smells like, looks like, what it sounds like. Our senses are to longer guide us. Evaluating by our senses is the way mere men evaluate a thing. We are no longer mere human men, but we have been made NEW when we received Christ as Lord.
- The old man (before being made new) relied only on his senses to determine his course of action. The man who has been made NEW has a NEW operating system.
- The old man encounters life through his flesh or his senses.
- The NEW MAN encounters life through the spirit of Christ in him.

Colossians 2.6-8 NIV

⁶ So then, just **as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him,**
⁷ **rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.**

⁸ **See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces [basic principles] of this world rather than on Christ.**

- We have been made NEW in Christ. We have a NEW operating system – it is Christ Jesus.
- We are rooted or set in Christ. We are grounded in Christ. He is our stability. The old is gone and everything has been made NEW. We are nourished through the root of Christ and not through the world.
- The NEW gives birth to the NEW. The old births only the old.
- We now live our lives from this NEW place in Him. Now we do EVERYTHING strengthened in Christ.
- Once we were captive to the basic operating principles of the world which operates by the senses, by current philosophies and political agendas, by tradition, by superstition and the intellect. This is NOT our NEW operating system.



We no longer operate by our natural senses. We are no longer governed by what we feel, see, hear, taste and smell. We operate by our new nature coming from the spirit of Christ in us – and now can access His seat of emotions, affections, attitudes, thinking and feeling.

The following is an excerpt from an EW Kenyon book:

Galatians 5.16 gives us a very graphic picture of the senses and of the Spirit: "But I say, walk by the spirit [that is NOT the Holy Spirit...it is the recreated spirit, which is the spirit of Christ in us] and ye shall not fulfill the desires of the senses."

This scripture shall be of infinite value to you, for the senses war against the recreated spirit, and the recreated spirit against the senses. "For these are contrary to each other that you might not do what you would do."

The word "flesh" should have been translated "senses." Then we could have understood it. You see, the five senses – seeing, hearing, smelling, feeling and tasting – are all PHYSICAL DOORS that lead to the brain. I know that a thing is sweet because I tasted it. I know a thing is fragrant because I smelled it. I know a thing is hard because I struck it. What we call the sins of the flesh are sins of the senses. They are sins connected with the physical body, and this body is the laboratory where we have learned all we know of secular knowledge.

The eighteenth verse [of Galatians 5] goes further: "But if you are led by the recreated spirit you are not under the law."

The Mosaic covenant had to do only with the senses. The new law that Jesus gave in John 13.34-35 has to do altogether with our recreated spirits.

The battle we fight in our daily walk is with our senses. I want the thing I see...My [recreated] spirit must govern my senses. My mind must be renewed by knowing the word of God and acting on the word...

Romans 12.1-2, here God is asking that our senses be turned over to Him. [We are asked to present our bodies as a living sacrifice].

We have a new kind of knowledge – revelation knowledge. It is knowledge that has come to us through the recreated spirit by acting on the word...the word must become part of my very being.

Romans 8.1-3 gives us a contrast, "There is therefore now no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus." Why? "For the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death."

The Ten Commandments were the law of sin and death. The law had to do with spiritually dead men. The recreated man, the NEW MAN in Christ, has a new law which is the law of life.

The law of Moses begat fear in spiritually dead men. The law of the New Covenant begat love and faith and confidence in the New creation...

Romans 8.6-9, "For the mind of the senses is death, but the mind of the recreated spirit is life and peace because the mind of the senses is in enmity against God (that is the reason that it is death), for it is not subject to the law of God neither, indeed, can it be; so they that are in the senses cannot please God (that is, they that are ruled and governed by the senses cannot please God). But ye are not ruled by the senses, but ye are ruled by the recreated spirit if so be that the spirit of God dwelleth in you."

In other words, if he is not ruled by the Spirit that dominated Jesus – not the Holy Spirit...

Advanced Bible Course, Studies in the Deeper Life by EW Kenyon – pp. 63-65

What EW Kenyon shares in his book brings understanding. When we are born again we have a recreated spirit; it is the spirit of Christ. Christ in us the hope of glory, Col. 1.27. Through our recreated spirit, the spirit of Christ, we have been given and possess what is called "in Christ realities". In Christ we have power and authority, in Christ we have righteousness, in Christ we are strengthened, in Christ we are overcomers, etc.

This is NOT the work of Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit did not go the cross; Jesus did. We operate through our recreated spirit which is the spirit of Christ in us (giving us the law of life in Christ Jesus – Rom 8.2).

The work of Holy Spirit is to lead us into all truth. Holy Spirit speaks to our heart. He is our comforter and our teacher or revelator of the word.

When we are born again, or our spirit is recreated, we are given the Holy Spirit and the spirit of Christ. What Kenyon points out is that in Galatians 5 and Romans 8, it is referring to the spirit of Christ in us, not Holy Spirit – and to think of the flesh as the 5 senses.

You could think of it this way: Holy Spirit leads us in our walk, always guiding us into truth and bringing us into understanding and revelation so we can accurately discern and align to our Father God. However; we go forward, live, move and have our being, in the spirit of Christ (by the Christ in us). We live and draw the resources the Father has given us through the spirit of Christ in us. We have the mind of Christ through the spirit of Christ in us. The mind of Christ refers to the seat of emotions and affections, the way of thinking and feeling, attitude, moral inclination; the thought, counsel or opinion of God or Christ.



Galatians 2.20-21

²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ; and **it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God**, who loved me and gave Himself up for me. ²¹ **I do not nullify the grace of God**, for if righteousness *comes* through the Law, then Christ died needlessly.

1 Corinthians 2.2

For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.

- Paul was saying I no longer live by my natural senses or my flesh. I am no longer a reflection of the world and its belief systems. I have set myself to live through the nature of the spirit of Christ in me. This is the recreated spirit I was given when I was born again – it is my new nature. All that operated from the old nature is now superseded by my new nature in Christ. In Him I live, move and have my being. I have resolved [made a firm decision] to live this way.

Philippians 3.12.20a

¹² **Not that I have already obtained all this**, or have already arrived at my goal, **but I press on** to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: **Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead**, ¹⁴ **I press on** toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

¹⁵ **All of us, then, who are mature should take such a view of things**. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. ¹⁶ Only **let us live up to what we have already attained**.

¹⁷ Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and **just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do**. ¹⁸ For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹ Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. **Their mind is set on earthly things**. ²⁰ **But our citizenship is in heaven...**

Ephesians 16-21

¹⁶ do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention *of you* in my prayers; ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. ¹⁸ *I pray that* the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. *These are* in accordance with the working of the strength of His might ²⁰ which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

- Paul was praying that God would open the spiritual eyes of the Ephesian believers so that they could see their new nature – that they now were to operate from the spirit of Christ within them.
- Then Paul went on to detail some of the truths about the new nature that believers receive when they are born again – even stating that this is our inheritance.

Colossians 217b NIV

...reality, however, is found in Christ.

- Our new nature, our new man, where we have received the spirit of Christ in us is our reality. It is how we engage the world. It is how we think, respond and react. How we see, hear, taste, smell and feel about EVERYTHING.

“IMMERSE ME”

- I** Into the deep, I will go with you, God.
- M** Mystery of Christ revealed in that deep place.
- M** Mature sons of God manifested.
- E** Exceeding walking in full stature.
- R** Rivers of God’s love, grace, peace, joy and favor flowing.
- S** Summing up of all things in Christ. Things in the heavens and things on the earth.
- E** Enlargement of your spirit man.
- M** Mercy triumphs over judgment every time.
- E** Emerge whole; mind, body and soul.

Ephesians 1.11

We have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will.

Christina Wilson



As we step into greater revelation knowledge and understanding of Christ being formed in us and moving through the spirit of Christ on the inside of us (this is our new man), our Father will use us to redesign our city and communities. He can use us to bring His kingdom into every domain. Releasing life and hope where darkness has dwelt, where fear and prejudice are rooted, and where injustice is found. Our Father will use us to bring transformation into the earth so that the earth and all that is in it will flourish. **AND THE TIME IS NOW! OUR LIGHT HAS COME AND THE GLORY OF THE LORD HAS RISEN ON US!!**