

CORINTH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

A NEW CREATION

SCRIPTURE READING:

- **“¹⁴ For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: ¹⁵ And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again. ¹⁶ Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more. ¹⁷ Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new (2 Cor 5:14-17).**

INTRODUCTION:

- A. **Christ “Died for All” means that all men when He died. Christ died our representative when He died. Christ died for all men so that they will not have to experience death for their sin debt.**
 - **“ALL” does not refer to Universal Salvation (belief that every person is saved by the death of Christ). “ALL” in the proper context in this passage, refers to all who are redeemed by faith in the death of Christ.**
- B. **“Christ died for ALL; therefore, all died [in Him]. His death stands as the death for all men. No man has to ever die. All he has to do is believe that Jesus died for him, and God will take his belief and count it as his having already died in Christ” (POSB).**
- C. **The person who believes in Christ as the Savior is a new creation. There will be a change in the Believer’s life – “... old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (2 Cor 5:17).**
 1. **“Old Things”** refers to be unsaved, relationships with sin and the world system.
 2. **“New Things”** refers to a relationship with Christ, obeying the commandments and commands of God.

PROPOSITION:

A New Creation (Born Again Believers) will experience (1) A Change in Status, (2) A Change in Destination, (3) A Change in Purpose, and (4) A Change in Outlook.

I. A CHANGE IN STATUS

A. Everyone stands someplace in relation to Christ – Believer or Unbeliever

B. The change that occurs when a person (Believer) meets Christ

1. The Believer is “passed from death unto life” (John 5:24)
The Believer passes from a state of spiritual death into the state of spiritual life. The Believer is never condemned to die; He is declared righteous and given eternal life.
 - a. **Before Salvation** – the person was dead in trespasses and sin. He was dead as to love for God and unconcerned about fellowship with God.

- b. **After Salvation** – the Believer is indwelt by the Holy Spirit and become a possessor of eternal life.
2. **The Believer is “called out of darkness into His marvelous light”** (1 Pet 2:9)
- **“Darkness”** – immoral, sin, error, misery
 - **“Light”** – knowledge, holiness, wisdom and happiness
- a. Christ has saved the Believer out of the darkness of sin and death and delivered us into the Light of Eternity. Believers will live forever. Believers are to Praise God and Proclaim the glorious message of His marvelous light (Salvation).
 - b. **“Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life”** (John 8:12).

The Light of the World is Jesus

The whole world was lost in the darkness of sin, The Light of the world is Jesus!
 Like sunshine at noonday, His glory shone in; The Light of the world is Jesus!
 Come to the light, 'tis shining for thee; Sweetly the light has dawned upon me;
 Once I was blind, but now I can see: The Light of the world is Jesus!

- c. **The Believer is passed from condemnation to justification** (John 3:18)
 - **Condemnation** – to declare wrong, strong disapproval, doomed to punishment
 - **Justification** – to declare righteous, not guilty
- i. The person who accepts Christ as Savior is not condemned but the person who does not accept Christ as Savior is condemned already. The Believer is not guilty of any sin – past, present nor in the future – **“Jesus Paid it All”**
- ii. Christ finished the work of Salvation – A gift that is available to All – Now, it is up to each person to decide whether he will accept Christ or reject Christ.
 - **“⁸ For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ⁹ Not of works, lest any man should boast** (Eph 2:8-9).

II. A CHANGE IN DESTINATION

A. “Where will you spend eternity?”

- 1. The Bible answers the question – very clearly
- 2. Satan and False Teachers try to confuse mankind about eternity with such **false teachings** as:
 - a. **Universal Salvation** – all will be saved

b. Reincarnation – “²⁷ And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: ²⁸ So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation (Heb 9:27-28).

c. Good Works, Church Membership, Baptism

d. There is more than one-way to Jesus and Heaven

e. Satan tries to keep a person from Salvation – “³ But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: ⁴ In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them (2 Cor 4:3-4).

B. Trust Jesus as the Savior and He will change your Eternal Destination:

○ “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3:16).

○ “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him (John 3:36).

○ “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life” (John 6:47).

○ “² In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. ⁶ Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me (John 14:2, 3, 6).

III. A CHANGE IN PURPOSE

A. What is your Purpose for Living?

1. Some live to have a good time – living worldly
2. Some do not have a purpose for living

B. Christ gives Believer's a Godly Purpose for Living

1. Our Purpose is to Please and Glorify God.

○ “Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God (1 Cor 10:31).

○ “²³ And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; ²⁴ Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ” (Colossians 3:23-24).

2. Living for Jesus a Life that is True

Living for Jesus a life that is true, Striving to please Him in all that I do;
Yielding allegiance, glad-hearted and free, This is the pathway of blessing for me.
Living for Jesus who died in my place, Bearing on Calv'ry my sin and disgrace;
Such love constrains me to answer His call, Follow His leading and give Him my all.

3. God Can Use One

D. L. Moody wrote the following words next to Isaiah 6:8 in his Bible: "I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. What I can do, I ought to do, and what I ought to do, by the grace of God I will do." - (Source: One Thousand and One Thoughts from My Library, Dwight Lyman Moody)

Isaiah 6:8: "Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me."

❖ **Allow God to Use You for His Glory!**

C. Believers are "Ambassadors for Christ" (2 Cor 5:20)

- An Ambassador is "a person of high rank employed by a government to represent it and transact its business at the seat of government of some other power (Smith's Bible Dictionary).

1. As Ambassadors for Christ, Believers represent the Sender (Christ) and are to proclaim His message – Christian Doctrines, such as, The Bible is God's Holy Word, Salvation, The Trinity, The Church and The Second Coming of Christ.

"To preach the whole truth is an awful charge. You and I, who are Ambassadors for God, must not trifle, but we must tremble at God's Word." – (Charles Spurgeon).

2. Believers are God's Ambassadors as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the Gospel (1 Thess 2:4). As we go through this world, we represent another kingdom (John 18:36), and it is our duty to reflect the official position of Heaven. We are in the world but not of the world (John 17:16).

- "For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ" (Phil 3:20).

IV. A CHANGE IN OUTLOOK

Jesus gives Believers a better quality of life – "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

A. We receive Eternal Life at the moment we accept Christ as Our Savior.

After Salvation, we discover various degrees of enjoyment of eternal life. The more we subject ourselves to the Holy Spirit, the more we enjoy the eternal life which has been given to us – It is abundantly more!

B. God sent Christ into the world to show mankind what true Eternal Life is.

Jesus Christ is life which involves the Fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22-23).

- “Jesus gives Life, which is Eternal, but it begins Now” – (Anonymous)
- Christ’s matchless gift of Eternal Life exceeds all expectations.” (Anonymous)
 - “Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water” (John 4:10).
 - “He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water” (John 7:38).

MEMORY VERSE:

“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Rom 6:23).

CONCLUSION:

A. A New Creation (Born Again Believer) will experience a Change in His Status, Destination, Purpose, and Outlook.

B. Since Jesus Came into My Heart

What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought, Since Jesus came into my heart!
I have light in my soul for which long I have sought, Since Jesus came into my heart!
Since Jesus came into my heart, Since Jesus came into my heart,
Floods of joy o'er my soul like the sea billows roll, Since Jesus came into my heart.

C. “We ought to be living as if Jesus died yesterday, rose this morning, and is coming back this afternoon.” – Adrian Rogers

D. Romans Road (Rom 3:10, 23; 5:8; 10:9, 13)

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“... the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isa 40:8).