

# The Believer's New nature

The phrases "new creation" and "new creature" are translations of *ktisis*, a term used in 2 Cor. 5:17 and Gal. 6:15. Creation is undoubtedly a better translation than "creature" for on only one occasion out of eleven in Paul's writings (Rom. 8:39) does *ktisis* certainly mean "creature".. It usually signifies God's act of creation (Rom. 1:20) or the result of that act, the cosmos (Rom. 8:19-20). The use of *ktisis* here rather than *ktisma*, which always means "creature" (1 Tim. 4:4) is very significant.

Three factors contribute to the meaning of this expression: The Old Testament word "new" is a term especially associated with the age to come, when God will "do a new thing" (Isaiah 43:19), "make a new covenant" (Jer. 31:31), even "create new heavens and a new earth" (Isaiah 65:17). See also Isaiah 42:9-10; Ezek. 11:19; 18:31; Psalm 96:1. Isaiah 43:14-21 especially pictures the redemption of Israel as a new creation or exodus (the two are closely associated). Paul proclaims the fulfillment of these eschatological expectations.

The balance between future and present in Pauline eschatology: Paul would not feel that Rev. 21:1-5, where the same OT expectations are used to picture a reality not yet fulfilled, contradicted 2 Cor. 5:17 and Gal. 6:15. He expresses the same future thought himself in Rom. 8:18-23. And it would be wrong to reconcile the two sides of his mind by saying that the man in Christ is "new creation" in that a new life has been conceived in him by the Spirit, a life which must yet grow to fullness.

Every believer starts from spiritual infancy and must break the maturity barrier. Because Christ is Christ, the promised new creation is now a reality: from the eternal perspective the man in Christ is "created" (past tense, Eph. 2:10), just as he is "justified" (Rom. 5:1), "sanctified" (1 Cor. 6:11), "glorified" (Rom. 8:30), even though these things are not fully realized in experience. The apostle Paul used the phrases "If anyone in Christ, new creation!" (2 Cor. 5:17a, literally) invites us to see the individual participating in a much greater eschatological reality. The old sinful nature (OSN) is passed down to every individual born into the world through genetic procreation and resides in the cell of the human body (Romans 6:6, 7:14, 18).

In Christ, God has created "one new man" (Eph. 2:15), a complex expression which moves between the person of Christ himself, who is the new Adam of God's new creation, and the new humanity which is the church "in" Christ; so each must take care to "put on the new man, created after the likeness of God" (Eph. 4:24, Col. 3:10).

The new nature is divinely imputed at the point of salvation through the righteousness of Christ. The OSN is the silent, invisible and disloyal components of our genetic makeup. The new nature is the silent, invisible and genuinely trustworthy friend of the souls of the redeemed. The New Nature will remain faithful though we become unfaithful. He cannot change.

At the moment of salvation, God the Holy Spirit creates a human spirit in the believer for the imputation of eternal life from God the Father (John 3:36, 1 Cor. 2:10, 12). The believer receives the new nature at regeneration. This makes the believer trichotomous, body, soul and spirit. The human spirit is created for the imputation of eternal life by God the Father. Eternal life is the life of God which has no beginning and no end.

The human spirit and the eternal life that resides in it, gives the believer a new nature. It is the new Christ nature. 1 Corinthians 15:45 states that the Lord Jesus Christ as the Last Adam was a life-giving spirit. This life received from the Lord Jesus Christ is new nature created in His image. The believer becomes born a 2nd time as a result of this act of God. At physical birth, we are born dichotomous, body and soul.

We are born physically alive but spiritually dead (1 Cor. 2:14). The omnipotence of God the Holy Spirit is totally responsible for Regeneration. Regeneration gives us the life of God which has no beginning and no end. Regeneration is the New Birth and makes us spiritual beings. The New Birth makes us a New Man or New Spiritual Species. We cannot have a relationship with God without being regenerated by the omnipotence of God the Holy Spirit. Regeneration makes us partakers of the divine nature, the life of Christ Himself (2 Pet. 1:4). The divine nature is synonymous with the New Man, New Creation, New Spiritual Species, the human spirit.

The body and soul of the believer were designed to be subordinate to the human spirit. The believer must worship and serve God from his human spirit. In order for the believer to experience deliverance from the old sin nature, self and the cosmic system of Satan the believer's body and soul must be subordinate to the human spirit.

The human spirit grows stronger by means of the Word of God as revealed by the Holy Spirit to the believer. The human spirit is receptacle for eternal life. It is also gives the believer the ability and the capacity to understand the Word of God as it is revealed by the Holy Spirit. The human spirit and the eternal life residing in it, is the nature of Christ.

The New Nature is totally unknown to human beings since it is spiritual and eternal in perspective. At the point of physical birth, the perfect human soul is imputed to the biological components of a man. Human soul is perfect and without blemish as it leaves the hand of God but soon as it contacts the biological life (the human body); it is instantly contaminated with the OSN. At no time, the soul is immediately corrupted and infected with the sin of Adam. The baby that comes out of the womb is a sinner because of the sin nature inherited from Adam (Rom. 3:23, 1 Cor. 15:22, 44-45).

The OSN is the revolutionary dictator who illegally occupies the soul until the individual is born in the Spirit. The human volition not the OSN is the source of sin. The OSN is the source of temptation. Therefore, the OSN cannot force the believers to sin without the human volition agreeing with the desires of the OSN.

The indwelling Holy Spirit is the only Person who has the capacity and ability to stop human volition from making negative decisions. Within every believer are two natures that are extremely opposite and different from each other. They have no point of agreement and similarity. They co-exist but they cannot co-operate at any given time since they are eternal enemy. They are struggling over sovereignty over the soul and will continue to struggle throughout one lifetime. This is the real battle ongoing for the entire lifetime of every believer.

The human soul is the venue of the spiritual battle not the planet earth, which is the kingdom of Satan (2 Cor. 4:4). The New Nature is the Christ in the believer, the Immanuel the God with us, the indwelling Trinity.

The New Nature is the source spiritual power for every regenerate believer. God will reject anything accomplished by the power of the OSN, no matter how noble and beneficial they might be. God is expecting every Church Age believers to live by the power of the New Nature and reject the power of the flesh.

The Trinity indwells every Church Age believer permanently an evidence and guarantee of eternal salvation. The Holy Spirit indwells the believer so that Christ may take up royal residence there. The indwelling puts the Spirit's help within the believer. The instantaneous effect of the indwelling is permanent \*it cannot be undone, lost, canceled, altered, changed or reversed by anything or anyone. It does not need to be repeated but once and for all.

The indispensable ministry of the indwelling Holy Spirit operates only within the believer as he is filled with Spirit. The believer cannot exist and reach spiritual maturity without the Word of God in his soul and the very operation of the indwelling Holy Spirit. The indwelling Christ, invisible today in time, will be the first Person the believer will see in the moment of physical death (2 Cor. 5:8), but from that very moment, the Shekinah Glory will be visible to the believers in glorious glorified and resurrection bodies.

The Shekinah Glory indwells the Church age believers for the purpose of fellowship with the glorified Christ the unique Person of the universe, the perfect God-Man, Jesus Christ. All the attributes of divine essence are resident in all Persons of the Godhead, but not all are manifested at the same time. The attributes of the Trinity never operate in a vacuum independently of each other. God the Father indwells the believer (John 14:23, Eph. 1:3, 6, 12, 4:6) for the glorification of His protocol plan.

God the Holy Spirit indwells the believer (Rom. 8:11, 1 Cor. 3:16, 6:19-20, Eph. 1:7-19, Rom. 8:11) for several reasons: To create a Temple for the indwelling Christ as down payment of our spiritual inheritance.

To empower us in the execution of the Father's plan God the Holy Spirit indwells the believer for several purposes: The Holy Spirit is the Badge of the royal family of God membership (John 14:20). He is the Guarantee of the available divine power in time (2 Cor. 13:4-6, Rom. 8:10) He is the Guarantee of eternal life and resurrected body (Col. 1:27). He is the depository of blessing in time and blessing in eternity, as the escrow officer at Judgment Seat of Christ (Ephesians 1:3).

He is the basis for assigning highest priority to our relationship with God and the use of divine power (John 2:24). He is the motivation for continued growth and momentum when under any phase of undeserved suffering for blessings (Gal. 2:20). He is the basis for the glorification of Christ in the unique life of the Church Age believers (John 17:22-23). The New Nature is the Christ that lives in every believer (Galatians 2:20) who must be given the total control over the mind and the soul so that the power of God would truly manifest, reach spiritual maturity and receive the blessings in time and eternity.



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