



Lights and Perfection, Inc.

Go and make disciples!

E-votional 76

Brand New

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV),

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Let me just start out by saying that the old is separate from the new. To understand this passage and apply it in its entirety we really need to grasp this concept of being made new. Being made new is not that God somehow took the old and made it better. We as the church have to understand this correctly. It is, that God did away with the old and did a new thing. So when we say that we are a new creation, we are not saying that the Lord somehow just improved our current immoral state to a better one. No, He did a great work when it says the old is gone and the new has come. They are indefinitely two separate things.

There is a strong reason I believe we need to hear this message in this day. Now as a precursor to the explanation in biblical insight, I want to share my passion for dethroning humanism that I believe has crept into the church today. Humanism, as found in the dictionary, is as follows,

an outlook or system of thought attaching prime importance to human rather than divine or supernatural matters. Humanist beliefs stress the potential value and goodness of human beings, emphasize common human needs, and seek solely rational ways of solving human problems.

The two parts I would like to emphasize here is that of human goodness, of which we know from scripture there is none. This fact of faith is found in Luke 18:19 (NKJV),

So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God.

And also in Romans 3:12 (NKJV),

They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one."

The next part I want to highlight is that of emphasizing human needs and the sole seeking of rational ways of solving human problems. This is not faith and seeks to undermine faith in very practical ways. Now, how has this crept into the church? I think as I unpack this you will clearly see the answer to this question as it unfolds in contrast with the idea of a new creation and what that looks like.

Again a new creation is something brand new that has never been done. God does not take and remake the old, nor does He just modify it to improve upon it. Instead, He does away with it and does a new thing. It is only when we choose to live out of the overflow of this new creation that we in effect walk free from the tyranny of the sinful flesh as found in Galatians 5:16 (NKJV),

I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

I was confronted with humanism a couple of years after the Lord saved me and made me new. Previously to Christ, I had a severe drug addiction an anger problem. I was told all the time that I would have to create a plan to deal with this in the future. My response to them was that my only plan is to pray after all Jesus said, '*pray that you would not enter into temptation.*' (Luke 22:40) I further added what Scripture said and how I was a new creation and that the old was gone. Now, today, I have been free from addiction, mental illness, anger, etc for about 10 years. You see Jesus is everything.

You see brothers and sisters, you have to align with what God says and not what the world says. They attempted to keep pointing out issues in my life and because of this, it kept me in bondage. Now, I am sure they thought that they were only helping. But I tell you the truth, we must be careful of things like psychology and humanism that seek only rational attempts to help. As Christians, we are to have faith in the power of Jesus Christ. Nowhere in the Bible did I see Jesus counsel people in psychology or psychiatry or humanism. When He spoke demons fled and people were healed and were even to be found in their right minds. But notice how Jesus did not just modify the old to make it more presentable. He annihilated the old and brought us to newness of life through His resurrection power. And in my case, Jesus removed from me addiction, an anger problem, as well as a whole other bunch of mental illnesses that I had before He delivered me. Don't get me wrong, there were still processes that Jesus sometimes led me through, but I tell you then truth, that I never prayed for deliverance of my drug addiction. The process was not figuring out how to not do the do nots or to simply change what was broken, it was effectively following Jesus to do the things that I should do. While I was doing the do's, the do nots

were being avoided by the Spirit of God. This is the law of faith and love. It was while I was choosing to walk in the Spirit that one day I looked back and saw in my own heart that I no longer for the first time in my life even desired drugs or the high that they brought. It goes then to verify the power of the Word of God, that while we are walking in the Spirit, we are in effect not walking in the flesh nor following the sinful desires of it. It does not mean that the flesh does not creep back in from time to time, you just have to remember to have faith and trust in Jesus and what He did by making you new. Remember the old is gone the new has come.

Church, we need a desperate move to come back to this. Purity and holiness are only accomplished when the God who saved us is also working in us that which is pleasing in His sight. But if I seek rational help for problems that are only rooted deep within our sinful nature, I will always be doomed to repeat those sins. We must understand that while those issues we are dealing with are very real and even factual, that we must also consider that they are still rooted in our old sinful self.

We really need to realize in this generation that sin is sin and not something that needs to be empathized with. Therefore, we consider ourselves dead to sin and alive to God by abolishing these false mindsets that only attempt to undermine the true authority of Jesus Christ in our lives and remember that Jesus does away with the old and does a brand new thing. Praise God for His great love, compassion, and power. Lord have mercy on us. As Your children, we accept that we have taken up false spiritual ideologies and as such have experienced less of Your deliverance in our lives than we should. Jesus, You made people perfectly well. How did we get so far from this truth? Help us get back to Your all-consuming power and make us holy as You Yourself are holy, in Jesus's name. Amen.

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