

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

8



How You Can Become A New Person



HIGHER LEVEL MINISTRIES

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus

Philippians Chapter 2 verse 5

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A newspaper once told the story of a young girl who had raised a panther as a pet. It was only a few days old when it was given to her. The girl was kind to her pet and they spent hours playing together. As the panther grew larger and older, the girl was warned of the danger of having this wild animal for a "pet". She had grown up with the panther and was sure that the animal would never harm her. She claimed that all the wild traits of her panther had been eliminated by its constant association with humans. Then one day the girl cut her finger as she was playing. The panther licked the blood from the wound. In seconds, this gentle playmate became a wild beast. Knocking its "mother" to the ground it viciously chewed and clawed her. The girl was certain the nature of the panther had been changed by its association with humans, but she discovered that it still had the nature of a wild animal.

This story illustrates the nature of man. Man is born with a sinful nature. It is much easier for him to do what is wrong than that which is good and right. Education and training may develop some outward signs of good behaviour, but the evil nature inherited from Adam still remains. The kind husband and father can become a raging maniac when he has had a few drinks. Psychologists tell us that these outbreaks are due to hidden and repressed drives that are held in check by self control but show themselves when the self control is temporarily anaesthetised. Christ said that the religious leaders of His day were like "whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but within are full of dead men's bones and of all uncleanness" **Matthew 23:27**. In order to be right with God we need forgiveness for our past sins. More than this, we need the evil nature, which produces these sins, changed.

1. What does the Bible say it is impossible for the sinner to do?

Jeremiah 13:23 - _____

2. How does Isaiah describe the good deeds we are capable of doing?

Isaiah 64:6 - _____

3. When Paul wanted to do that which was right, what did he do instead?

Romans 7:15-19 - _____

4. Why was Paul incapable of doing what God commanded?

Romans 7:14 - _____

5. What is the reason that mankind does not willingly obey God? **Romans**

8:6,7 - "Because the carnal mind _____ :

for it is not _____."

6. How can a lost sinner become a child of God? **Acts 3:19** -

Note: The word converted means to be changed. Our carnal nature needs to be changed into a spiritual one. Our part is to repent or be sorry for our sins. God's part is to accomplish the change in us which we call conversion.

7. How can our natures be changed from carnal to spiritual so that we might be what God wants us to be? **John 3:3** -

8. How does God accomplish this spiritual rebirth? **John 3:5,6** and **John 1:12-13** -

9. What does God promise to do if we yield ourselves to Him?

Ezekiel 36:26 -

10. Under the new covenant what has God promised to do to help us in living a Christian life? **Hebrews 8:10** -

11. Through whom does deliverance from the evil nature come?

Romans 7:24-25 -

12. How deep must our desire be to receive this change? **Matthew 5:6** -

13. When will we be able to find the help we need in securing salvation?

Jeremiah 29:12-13 -

14. How completely are we changed by this rebirth through Christ?

2 Corinthians 5:17 -

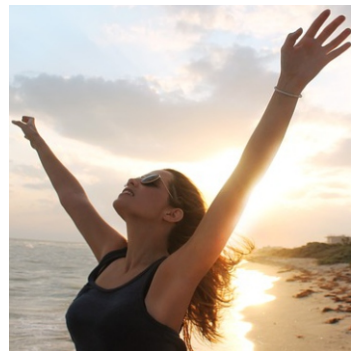
15. How does the Bible describe the change that takes place by the new birth? **Colossians 3:1-10** -

"Ye have _____ with his deeds
and have _____" (Verse 9,10).

16. When an individual has been truly converted, what new traits of character will be seen in his life? **Galatians 5:22-25** -

17. What assurance is given to those who are born of God? **1 John 5:4** -

How often have we failed in following the Saviour as we should. We have tried to do right - only to fail more miserably than before. Our intentions were good, but we tried to do it without God's help. We were still carnal and sinful in nature, and controlled by our passions and habits acquired before we knew God's plan of redemption. Without Jesus our hearts cannot be changed. We can never overcome the Devil in our own strength. It is only as we put our lives in the hands of Christ that we can gain the victory over past sins. Only through Jesus that we can live the victorious Christian life. So many people say "When I'm a better person and I've stopped doing wrong, I'll come to church and follow Jesus." This is like the sick person saying, "When I get well I will go to the doctor and let him help me." The time to come to Christ for help is when you recognize your need. Give Him your heart today and know the joy and peace that comes to you as you become a new creature in Christ.



You can do this by dropping to your knees or simply bowing your head right now and letting Him take control of your life. Perhaps you do not know how to come to Christ. Just repeat these simple words as an expression of your heart's sincere desire: "Dear Lord, I am weak. I have sinned. Please forgive and help me. Come into my heart and change me now. Amen."

I want to make a complete surrender to my Lord today.

I want the new birth that God has promised

This study has been faithfully updated from the original "The Bible Speaks"

All Bible texts quoted are from the King James Bible



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