Introduction: One’s perspective is very important in life. Are you a glass half full or half empty sort of person. What basketball player missed the final shot in over 40 games which would have won the game? What baseball player stuck out over 2,000 times in his career? The answers, Michael Jordan and Babe Ruth, both players considered the best to of played their sport. As Christians we need to look at life with the proper perspective.

**I) Clarifying The Christian’s New Outlook**

**A) A new perspective.**

1. The new frame of mind is possible for the Christian is grounded in the character of God; His goodness, His wisdom, His power.

a. God is “the God of hope” who can “fill us with all joy and peace in believing” (Romans 15.13)

b. Faith is “the victory which overcome the world” (1 John 5.4-5)

2. What can happen is illustrated in the dramatic transformation in the apostles’ outlook between the Lord’s crucifixion and Pentecost.

a. From doubt, despair, dejection, and despondency, to hope, courage, and joy.

**John 16:22 "Therefore you now have sorrow; but I will see you again and your heart will rejoice, and your joy no one will take from you.**

**Acts 2:46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.**

**B) A new perspective identified and clarified**

1. A new mind turned to spiritual realities.

**Romans 8:6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.**

**Romans 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.**

2. The Christian joyous way of looking at life is not Pollyanna but to be able to cope with the pain, sorrow, and difficulty of life. To rise above them.

a. Jesus is the supreme example,

**Hebrews 12:2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.**

b. Jesus’ prayer for His apostles is instructive.

**John 17:14 "I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 15 "I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.**

**II) Describing The Christian’s New OutLook**

**A) Paul wrote to Christians in Rome, “be transformed by the renewing of your mind” Romans 12.2**

**B) But how? Sounds like a good bumper sticker or post for the refrigerator . But what exactly are we talking about?**

1. Be more grateful toward God. John 3.16.

2. A more patient out look toward people.

**2 Timothy 2:24-25 NKJV 24 And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, 25 in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth,**

3. A more realistic out look toward self.

**Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.**

4, A more pragmatic out look toward problems.

**Matthew 6:34 "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.**

a. The spiritually renewed person can accept unpleasant facts as concrete situations to be handled rather than hated. (Problem solving)

b. A problem is an opportunity in work clothes.

5. A more courageous out look toward perils.

**1 John 4:4 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.**

6. A more comforting out look toward sorrows.

**1 Thessalonians 4:13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.**

**1 Thessalonians 4:18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.**

7. A more content out look towards wants. Phil. 4.11,12.

8. A more enthusiastic out look toward work.

**Colossians 3:23 And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men,**

**a. “Every man is enthusiastic at times. One man his enthusiasm for 30 minutes, another has it for 30 days—but it is the man who has it for 30 years who makes a success in life” (Edward B. Butler)**

9. A more confident out look toward responsibilities. (The Yes I Can Attitude)

10. A more optimistic out look toward the future.

**Philippians 1:19 For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, 20 according to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. 21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. 22 But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. 23 For I am hard pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. 24 Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you. 25 And being confident of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy of faith, 26 that your rejoicing for me may be more abundant in Jesus Christ by my coming to you again.**

11. A more fervent out look toward eternity.

**John 14:1 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 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 to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. 4 "And where I go you know, and the way you know."**

12. A more peaceful out look toward all things.

**John 14:27 "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.**

**III) Accepting The Christian’s New Out Look**

**A) The Challenge is to accept this new out look in practice. 1 Thess. 5.16**

1. The Christian has every reason to think of life as a God-given privilege.

**B) Those outside of Christ should be able to sense a difference in the Christian’s frame of mind. We should be able to say what Paul said to Agrippa.**

**Acts 26:29 And Paul said, "I would to God that not only you, but also all who hear me today, might become both almost and altogether such as I am, except for these chains."**

Conclusion: The Christian is indeed a new creation: old things have pasted away, behold all things have become new, 2 Corinthians 5.17.If God is for us who can be against us.