

Short Answer Series #7

What Is A 'New Creature?'

'Therefore if any man (or woman) be in Christ he is a new creature; old things are passed away, behold all things are become new.' 2 Corinthians 5v17

So, does this mean 'Praise the Lord, Hallelujah, Life is perfect now, and so am I?' Does it mean I'll never lose my temper? I'll never be short of cash? I'll never get sick? I'll never do anything wrong? NO. So what has changed? A new Creature isn't a difference in *quality* (A better person as opposed to a worse person). It's a difference in *kind*. You have Eternal life now, and you have a desire for Spiritual things.

You will change. But change has to happen on the inside, or it isn't change, it's suppression, and suppression only lasts as long as you can control it. When people get Alzheimer's, and lose control of their faculties, things that were suppressed all their lives start coming out. That mild mannered little man is now calling his wife a 'bloody old cow.' That sweet little woman is now swearing like a Trooper. Nothing has changed in them. But those things that were only suppressed are now free to surface, and they do.

The new Creature isn't the old tidied up with a haircut, polished shoes and no smoking or swearing, otherwise everyone who does those things is a Christian, but they aren't. That isn't what makes a Christian. It's a new *birth* to a new *life*. A transformation. From a caterpillar to a butterfly, and you can *never* be a caterpillar again.

Change will take place from the inside, but there are two ways it can happen. As Charles Cowman said, either we get down on our knees at the beginning, and have one big battle, and let the Lord take *all* the world out of us, or we spend our whole lives having skirmishes, and we lose a little at a time, as most people do.

In the parable of the Sower, Jesus said the seed sown among thorns were those who receive the Word with joy, but the cares of this life, and the deceitfulness of riches choke the Word and it becomes unfruitful.

The 'cares of this life' are the things we need to do to survive naturally. We have to feed to grow. If we feed well, we will grow well. But if we feed little, we will grow little, like those among the thorns.

We don't become a human when we become an adult. We are a human from birth. And we don't become a Christian when we become a mature Christian, we are a Christian from the day we are born-again. And you learn to live the Spiritual life, the same way you learn to live the Physical life. One step at a time, and one day at a time.

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