

Becoming a New Creature
(2 Corinthians 5:17)

Introduction:

1. Occasionally we face circumstances that may cause us to want to start afresh.
 - a. Putting the past in the past would be a great blessing.
 - b. Starting again with a clean slate would also be a special blessing.
2. Starting afresh in this life may not actually be a reality; however, according to 2 Corinthians 5:17, this is something we can do spiritually.
 - a. When a person gets into Christ he is *"a new creature."*
 - b. *"Old things are passed away."*
 - c. *"All things are become new."*
3. On this first Lord's Day of 2019 we are studying a number of passages that relate to "becoming a new creature."
4. Let us first point out that . . .

Discussion:

- I. THE PEOPLE IN CORINTH SHOW US WHY WE NEED TO BECOME NEW CREATURES
 - A. We learn from 1 Corinthians 6:9-11a that they were guilty of sins that would keep them out of God's kingdom.
 - B. When the Gospel was first taken to Corinth, some were guilty of rejecting Christ (Acts 18:4-6).
 - C. The spiritual condition of those who are outside of Christ is revealed in Ephesians 2:11-12.
 - D. These passages explain why we need to become new creatures.
 - E. Thankfully, the Lord has made it possible for us to start afresh.
 - F. Not only do they show us why we need to become new creatures, but . . .
- II. THE PEOPLE IN CORINTH ALSO SHOW US HOW TO BECOME NEW CREATURES
 - A. We learn from Acts 18:7-8 that they heard (see vs.4-5), they believed, and they were baptized.
 - B. In other words, they obeyed the commands that Jesus gave in His Great Commission (Mark 16:15-16).
 - C. This process of becoming a new creature is further explained in:
 1. Romans 6:3-7
 2. Galatians 3:27-29
 3. Colossians 2:11-13.
 - D. These passages explain how we become new creatures.
 - E. When we become new creatures *"old things are passed away"* (Psalm 103:12).
- III. THE SCRIPTURES REVEAL ADDITIONAL PRINCIPLES THAT RELATE TO BEING NEW CREATURES
 - A. Putting on the new man is an ongoing process.
 1. Ephesians 4:22-24
 2. Colossians 3:8-13
 - B. Concerning the fact that *"all things are become new,"* new creatures:
 1. look for a new dwelling place (2 Peter 3:13)
 2. obey a new commandment (2 John 5-6).

Conclusion:

1. The Lord invites us to come to Him so He can make us new creatures (Matthew 11:28-30).
2. Let us close by reading about some people who became new creatures in Acts 2:41-47.