

The New Nature You Received When You Believed in Jesus Christ – Part 1

1. Extended recap from last meeting; we discussed...

- We talked about those who are “in Christ” and those who “Belong to Christ.” Believers are “in Christ” and now “belong to Christ.” Unbelievers are not yet “in Christ,” are “not His” and are not yet forgiven of their sins. **Jn. 8:24** – *“unless you believe that I Am who I claim to be, you will die in your sins.”* One must believe in Christ to “receive” the finished work of the cross.
- We discussed what was accomplished at the cross and what was “made available” for all who would believe in Christ. Again, what Christ did on the cross was a finished work. He finished what He came to do, however, the scriptures are clear that one must believe in Christ to receive this finished work. Any teaching that teaches universal salvation is heresy. Righteousness was not imputed to all of humanity when Christ died on the cross. We receive Christ’s righteousness only through faith in Him. **Rom. 3:21-31 (NLT/ESV)** – *“God has shown us a new way to be made right with Him”* and that new way is faith in His Son. *“He makes sinners right in His sight when they believe in Jesus Christ.”, “This righteousness is not based on keeping the law, but is based on faith in Christ alone.”*
- We also read through **Rom. 5**. Let’s read **Rom. 5:1-11 (NLT)** and keep in mind what **Rom. 5:1-2 (NLT/AMPC)** says: *“We have been made right in God’s sight by faith. Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand...”* To understand **Rom. 5:8-11** which states *“We have been made right in God’s sight by the blood of Christ ...and our friendship with God has been restored ...and we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God.”*; this must be read in full context by bringing in what is mentioned in **Rom. 5:1-2** regarding *“our faith in Christ”*. We “receive the power of Christ’s blood” His finished work, through faith. We also read through **Rom. 6:1-18** which talks about sin’s power being broken for those who believe. Believers are no longer a slave to sin and can now live new lives because we “believers” have been united with Christ, our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ. The believer has been freed from slavery to sin and has now become slaves to righteous living.

2. What you received when you believed: Let’s talk about our new nature.

- a) **What is the “new nature” of the believer?** Scripture says those who believe in Christ through faith have been renewed, regenerated, born again [reborn from above—spiritually transformed, renewed, sanctified], have become a new creation, have become a child of God and are now in union with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The believer “receives” a washing away their sins, giving them a new birth and a new life through the Holy Spirit.

This is a new nature that replaces the old nature and this happened the moment you believed in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior.

- b) Important phrases to remember regarding your new nature is “In Christ” and “Belong to Christ,” those are both part of your new nature. One example would be **Rom. 8:9 (NLT/AMP)** – KJV says “not His”.
- c) **When you believed, you were reborn:** When you believed in Christ, you become a child of God and are born again, you were given the right to become a child of God and you were reborn, born of God, a birth that comes from God, a divine and supernatural birth. Notice these three important words; All who believe, accept, and receive Him. With this new birth comes a new nature: **Jn. 1:12-13 (NLT/ESV/AMPC)**.
- d) Let’s dive a little deeper into this **new birth that comes from God**. – One must be born again to see the Kingdom of God. Born again into a Living Hope, those who are born again will not “practice” unrighteousness. Those who believe in Christ have been reborn from above—spiritually transformed, renewed, and set apart for His purpose **Jn. 3:1-6; 1 Jn. 3:9-10, 1 Pet. 1:3-9 (ESV); 1 Jn. 5:1-21 (AMP)**.
- e) **Comparing our old nature with the new:**
“Old nature: “works of the flesh, will not inherit the Kingdom of God”.
“New Nature: “Reborn, washed, sanctified, justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Holy Spirit and have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires, now live and walk by the Holy Spirit.”
1 Cor. 6:9–11 (AMP) (vs. 9-10 is our old sinful nature / vs. 11 is our new nature).
Gal. 5:19–25 (AMP) (vs. 19-23 is our old sinful nature / vs. 24-25 is our new nature).
The believer has been delivered/rescued from the control of darkness and transferred into the Kingdom of His Son. Was once full of darkness, but now has light from the Lord. Has received forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith. **Col. 1:13-14; Eph. 5:8 (NLT); Acts 26:16-18 (NKJV)**.
Old Nature/Old Man = Dead in your sin <> New Nature/New Man = Alive in Christ!

We had a lot of good discussion and only made it halfway through this study. In our next meeting we will continue talking about the new nature that believers received when they believe.

Where are we on the study map with this study?

