

## Foundations

### The New Has Come! Pt 4.

#### 2 Corinthians 5:17

When we place our personal trust in Jesus Christ and receive him as our Savior, God's Word declares that we become new creations—the old has passed away; behold, the new has come! As gifts of God's amazing grace, we are given...

...**New Life!** God regenerates us. Inside us, God creates new spiritual life (we are born again). He imparts righteousness to us by permanently indwelling our bodies with the Holy Spirit and creating in us a new heart (new self) fashioned after his holy heart—a heart that is responsive to his Word and longs to obey his will.

...**New Standing!** God justifies us. Outside us, God credits us with the very righteousness of Christ, giving us a right standing before him in heaven based entirely on the merit of Jesus' sinless life, sacrificial death, and triumphant resurrection from the dead.

...**New Family!** God adopts us. God brings us into his forever family and gives us the right to be called his own children. He rescues us from our former father/master, the devil, who lied to us and enslaved us in sin all our lives. He unites us with other believers—brothers and sisters from every tribe, tongue, nation, and language—reversing the curse of Babel with all its divisions and prejudice.

...**New Identity!** God places us in Christ. Foundational to all that God gives us in salvation is a single reality born in his mind prior to creation, fleshed out in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, and then actualized forever for believers at the point of their salvation—God sees us "in Christ". Jesus is our representative. His history has become our history. Whatever Jesus did as our representative, God counted it as being something we did, too! Jesus Christ is the head (Last Adam) of a new humanity made up of people from all the families of the earth that God is preparing to inhabit a new heavens and new earth.

...**New Covenant!** A covenant is an unchangeable, divinely imposed legal agreement between God and man that stipulates the conditions of their relationship. Throughout the Bible, God makes several eternal covenants with people, such as the covenants of redemption (before creation), grace (after the Fall), as well as the Abrahamic (Israel/world) and Davidic (Messiah) covenants. In what is called the "Old Covenant" (not the entire Old Testament but a temporary—fading glory—covenant given to the nation of Israel through Moses), God related to his people as small children needing extensive rules and regulations to govern their lives and restrain their sin from the outside-in (laws chiseled in stone – Israel's failure) (**Gal 4:1-3**). In stark contrast to this, through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ (**3:24**), God has inaugurated a "New Covenant" with his people, making us competent in a *new and living way* (**Heb10:20**) to relate to him as full-grown sons and daughters, having provided in this covenant all the necessary resources for us to obey and please him from the inside-out (part of our regeneration) (**Gal 4:4-7**). With this New Covenant, we receive:

1. **A New Companion: Holy Witness** (The Holy Spirit bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God)

We Are Spirit-Baptized: Immersed into Christ's Body, the Church (**1 Corinthians 12:13**)

We Are Spirit-Indwelt: Our Bodies Are God's Temple on Earth (**Ephesians 2:11-22**)

We Can Be Spirit-Filled: God's Empowering Presence at Work in Our Lives (**Ephesians 5:18**)

**Bottom Line:** The Holy Spirit WANTS to empower you and transform you to be more like Jesus (**2 Corinthians 3:18**). He is not a reluctant Comforter. Jesus sent him to enable you to live your life like Jesus would live your life. God desires that you partner with him in that process by "keeping in step with the Spirit" as you faithfully follow Christ's example. **To be Spirit-empowered, do what Jesus would do, if he were you.**

## 2. A New C \_\_\_\_\_ : Holy W \_\_\_\_\_

Spirit vs Law (**Galatians 3:1-3; 5:1, 6, 13-16**)

**Philippians 2:12, 13**

3. A New C \_\_\_\_\_ : Holy W \_\_\_\_\_

Gifts of the Spirit (Ephesians 2:8-10; 4:1-16)

Romans 12:1-10

1 Corinthians 12:1-14

Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:19-25)

John 15:1-11; cf. John 14:12; 16:7

4. A New C \_\_\_\_\_ : Holy W \_\_\_\_\_

Spirit vs Flesh (Galatians 5:16-17)

Romans 7:18-25

Ephesians 4:20-24

Ephesians 6:10ff

Luke 10:17-20

Colossians 1:13-18

God's gifts outside us in Christ guarantee our full \_\_\_\_\_ before him. God's gifts inside us in Christ compel us to cooperate with him in our spiritual maturation to gain his full \_\_\_\_\_ as his beloved children.

## Foundations

### The New Has Come! Pt III (cont)

#### 2 Corinthians 5:17

*When we place our personal trust in Jesus Christ and receive him as our Savior, God's Word declares that we become new creations—the old has passed away; behold, the new has come! As gifts of God's amazing grace, we are given...*

*...**New Life!** God regenerates us. Inside us, God creates new spiritual life (we are born again). He imparts righteousness to us by permanently indwelling our bodies with the Holy Spirit and creating in us a new heart (new self) fashioned after his holy heart—a heart that is responsive to his Word and longs to obey his will.*

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#### 2. **A New Colleague: Holy Walk**

Spirit vs Law (**Galatians 3:1-3; 5:1, 6, 13-16**)

**Philippians 2:12, 13**

### 3. A New **Capacity**: Holy **Work**

Gifts of the Spirit (Ephesians 2:8-10; 4:1-16)

Romans 12:1-10

1 Corinthians 12:1-14

Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:19-25)

John 15:1-11; cf. John 14:12; 16:7

### 4. A New **Conflict**: Holy **War**

Spirit vs Flesh (Galatians 5:16-17)

Romans 7:18-25

Ephesians 4:20-24

Ephesians 6:10ff

Luke 10:17-20

Colossians 1:13-18

God's gifts outside us in Christ guarantee our full **acceptance** before him. God's gifts inside us in Christ compel us to cooperate with him in our spiritual maturation to gain his full **approval** as his beloved children.