

## ***What Happened to Me? Colossians 1:13 and other verses***

INTRO:

There's a chorus we've sung which is packed with significant truth. The chorus goes like this:

Things are different now/ Something happened to me/ When I gave my heart to Jesus;/ Things are different now / I was changed it must be/ When I gave my heart to Him./ Things I loved before are passed away/ Things I love far more are come to stay/ Things are different now/ Something happened that day/ When I gave myself to Him.

The truth this little chorus teaches us when Jesus comes into our lives, there is a change. The Bible speaks clearly of a change taking place in a person's life when God saves him or her.

The infallible revelation of God is the final authority on whether something happens when someone is born again. In our study we will explore three statements about what happens when we are saved. We will begin in **Colossians 1:13**, then we will move to **John 5:24** and finally we will arrive at **2 Corinthians 5:17**. Here then is the road map for our travels today.

What happened to us when we got saved?

- I. WE WERE DELIVERED Colossians 1.13***
- II. WE HAVE MOVED John 5.24***
- III. WE HAVE BEEN CHANGED 2 Corinthians 5.17***

### ***I. We Were Delivered (Colossians 1:13)***

A. When Paul penned the Colossian epistle he wrote to a church he had never visited. The Colossian church probably was born out of the ministry of Epaphras who we meet in **verse 7**.

***“As you also learned from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf.”***

Paul's purpose in writing this letter was to correct doctrinal error which crept into the church. Before he dealt with the problem, he encouraged the believers by praying for them.

B. In **verse 12** Paul thanks God for the salvation these believers had in Christ.

***“Giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.”***

What does that salvation look like? **Verse 13** says,

***“He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love.”***

He has delivered us from the "authority" exousia of darkness and transferred us into His Son's kingdom.

1. We may not consciously think about this, yet, the Bible clearly teaches that before we were saved, we lived under the dominion of sin.

a. **Ephesians 5:8** ***“For you were formerly darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light”***

Notice, it is not that we were in the darkness. We were a part of the darkness itself.

b. **Acts 26:18** ***“To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power [exousia] of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.”***

This is the Lord Jesus summarizing Paul's ministry.

2. What happen to deliver us out of the dominion of darkness? Jesus came by and God did a miracle in our lives. Paul described it visually in **2 Corinthians 4:6** ***“For God, who commanded, ‘out of darkness, Light shine!’ is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.”***

In **1 Peter 2:9**,

***“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”***

God made us see and we embraced Jesus and were transferred from the authority of darkness to the kingdom of His beloved Son.

C. What does all this mean in our lives? A kingdom is a place where a King rules and the people obey His leadership. We once were slaves to sin; we now are to be subjects of King Jesus. This leaves us with a very important question. “Who rules over you?”

## ***II. We Have Moved (John 5:24)***

A. A second statement describing what happened to us when the Lord saved us is found in Jesus' discourse with the Jews in **John 5**.

v.24 ***“Verily, verily, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.”***

B. Jesus said, they who hear His word. That is they who are listening to God’s voice from the Word of God. We must never forget the importance of the Word of God to our salvation. Remember **Romans 10:17**

***“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.”***

And when the word is mixed with faith in the Lord, salvation happens.

C. What really happens when God saves us? ***“[We have] passed from death into life.”*** We are literally, “passed out of death into life.” What does that mean? The word translated ***“passed”*** means to move from one place to another, to change one’s residence. When Kathy and I moved from Enfield to Lansing, we did what this word says. When God saved us, He moved us from death into life.

1. Whatever else this statement means it certainly indicates that this transition is a dramatic one. We once resided in spiritual death, we now enjoy spiritual life

2. The move from spiritual death to spiritual life should make a fundamental difference in our lives. The Apostle John, himself, described this change in

**1 John 3:14 *“We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.”***

One way that we can know that we have made this move is because we start loving our brothers and sisters in the Lord.

D. Where is our Spiritual response? Do spiritual realities mean something to us? Has this realization changed our day to day existence?

### ***III. We Have Been Changed (2 Corinthians 5:17)***

A. There is one last passage we need to briefly explore. It is found in

**2 Corinthians 5:17 *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”***

We have been made a new creation. The word ***“new”*** in this verse is the word for “new” in quality. We are given a brand new life.

B. This mean the guilt of our sin is gone and we are living in a brand new relationship with the true and living God. What is the main change that is reflected in our being made a new creation? He already told us in

**2 Corinthians 5:15 *“And He died for all, that they who live should no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.”***

We have looked at three statements which define what has happened to us since we were saved. **(1)** We have been delivered from the domain of darkness to the Kingdom of His beloved Son. **(2)** We have been moved from death into life. **(3)** We have been made a new creation. Each of these statements ask a question that it is very important we answer.

Who rules over you, Sin or the Savior?

What difference does spiritual reality make in your life?

Who are you living for?

How we answer these questions show us a lot about whether these changes have happened in our lives.

Hymn #504 ***He Touched Me***