

**Scripture:** 2 Cor. 5

Lord's Day 33.88-90

**Singing:** 257:1-3 – 419:2-3 – 328:1-4 – 304:1, 6, 7

A. One of the benefits of being delivered from misery is *to be a new man*

1. A Christian is a person who is *converting*: Prov. 4:18

a. this is part of our deliverance (Acts 9:31)

b. call to conversion is no negative command (Acts 3:19; Col. 3)

2. A holy Christian has a 'lifestyle' that leads to happiness (John 13:17)

### **The identify of New Creature**

#### I. Rooted in Christ II. Fruiting through Christ

**The context of our text:** *Paul's confidence about salvation constraining him*

a. He knows and is assured where he is going (vs. 1-8)

2. Yet he is not slack about how he lives (vs. 9-16)

a. He labors with the view of throne of Jesus in mind (9-10)

b. He knows the 'terror of God' as Judge of living/dead (10-11)

c. He is constrained by love of Christ (14-16)

#### **I. The identify of New Creature: rooted in Christ**

A. One is only a new creature by being rooted in Christ (17a)

1. To be in Christ is the *key – source – provision* for living the new life

a. apart from abiding in Christ, we cannot bear fruit (John 15:1-4)

b. if we do not live by faith in His finished work, we will fail to live holy

#### **II. The identify of the New Creature: fruiting through Christ**

A. What is the evidence that you are in Christ for real?

1<sup>st</sup> **heart change:** *old things are passed away & all things becomes new*

2<sup>nd</sup> **life change:** *repentance from sin & conversion to God (Acts 3:19)*

C. These **evidences** are the soundest test between a true and false conversion

1. Avoid comparing yourself to *other people's experiences/stories*

a. our hearts are utterly deceitful (Matt 7:21-23; Titus 3:3)

b. Jesus' warning is never old-fashioned: Matt. 5:20 – 1 Cor. 13:1-3

2. Instead examine against **Scriptural marks of new life** : 2 Cor. 5:17

a. if these are present (always in an imperfect state), rejoice!

● Phil. 1:6; Col. 1:12-13; 1 Peter 1:13

**Examination:** *Reflect whether you detect truths of vs. 17? Or q/a 89-90?*

A. Have 'old things passed away'?

a. old way of thinking

b. old way of loving

c. old way of living

d. old way of reacting

e. old way of attraction

B. Have all things become new

a. new view of God's glory

b. new view of sin

c. new view of Jesus

d. new view of Bible

e. new view of creation

Giving thanks unto the Father which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light, who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the Kingdom of His dear Son. Col. 1:12-13

