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INTRODUCTION

1. Life-changing events.
2. 2C5:17 - become a *new creature*!

1st: The New Creation is a Present Reality

1. Verb is not “to arrive at a place”, but to come into being: what/who we are.
2. Abbreviated, excited - The command is *behold*: Look!
3. Future [Final jdgmnt]; present [live for Christ]; past [Jesus' death & resurrection] wh/ points to the future. v17: what has happened in the past still is in the present .
4. *New* [2x]: resurrection life of age to come - already!
5. Paul looks at you/me *in Christ* & gets excited: *Look!*

2nd: The New Creation Concerns Our Regeneration

1. Regeneration - new birth; res; heart circumcision; described as new creation. 2C 4:6 analogous to original creation.
2. Original creation - pregnant wmn [Rm 8] to birth sons of God in resurrection

3. Gal 6:15 - circumcision of heart = new heart.
 - i. Eph 2:10 - [v5-6]; v 10 *created*
 - ii. Eph 4:24 - *put on new man*

Applic #1: Be Who You Are

1. Being precedes doing. Who/what you are determines what you do.
2. How can we identify a *new creature*?
3. God delivers then inscribes His law - in NCov, on regen'd hearts. God *gives life to dead & calls into being that not exist* [Rm 4:17] = new creation
4. A life-changing event: learning that regeneration precedes faith, which is itself a gift of God. Jn 1:13.
5. Meditate on vss re: regeneration: new creation; new birth [Jn 3 Nic]; spiritual resurrection; circumcision of heart - what God *has done*
6. God has given you life - be who you are. Live the life given to you.
7. Rom 6:11 *consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus & [v13] present yourself to God as those alive from the dead.* Look! A new creature!