

## The New Nature in the Successful Christian Life

### Introduction

- A. God has made a provision for the believer regarding his old sinful nature. That provision is the Crucifixion, Romans 6:6. Through the work of the Lord Jesus Christ in His death the old nature can be "paralyzed" and the believer can live in freedom from sin.
- B. In the Resurrection of Jesus Christ a provision has been made so that the believer may have a new nature or new source of righteousness and love for his daily life. Every Christian understands how deeply he is in need of this divine enablement.

### I. The Biblical Description of the New Nature and its Beneficial Effects.

- A. The new nature has its source in the work of Jesus Christ and results in a transformation of character and life, II Cor. 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.

Observation: When one receives Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord he is brought into a living relationship with God. He becomes a new "creation". He is given a new nature, or, better stated, he is made alive to God as a total person.

- B. The new nature is the key for personal assurance of salvation and the key to a successful Christian life. Galatians 6:14,15.

But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by Whom the world is crucified unto me and I unto the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.

Observation: The evidence of the grace of God in one's daily life is a comforting assurance that he is a genuine believer. The test is not circumcision (Jewish legalism and formalism) nor uncircumcision. (non-Jewish religious emotionalism) but the recognition that one is a new creature.

- C. The new nature is the source of righteousness and genuine holiness. The Christian, therefore, has the ability to live in righteousness and holiness, Ephesians 4:24.

And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true Holiness.

Observation: In the new nature the believer has been given a divine enablement for his daily life. The Christian can, once he is correctly taught, live a life which is pleasing to God.

- D. The new nature is a source of, or, a divine enablement for knowledge. The Christian, therefore, has the ability to know God and the world, Col. 3:10.

And that ye put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of Him that created him.

Observation: God originally made man as a rational, intelligent being. The new birth has brought the believer back to a relationship whereby he can know God, live in fellowship with Him, and do His will.

E. The new nature is the inner source of freedom from lust and its resultant corruption. The Christian, therefore, has the ability to make the right decisions and live a holy life, II Peter 1:4.

Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises, that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

Observation: Freedom from sin, the world as an ungodly system and the influence of the enemy is provided through the Word of God and the ability given through the new nature to practice the Bible. The Christian can live in freedom.

## II. The Provision of God Concerning the New Nature.

Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death, that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. Romans 6:4.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively (living) hope by the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, I Peter 1:3.

Observation: The Resurrection power and life of Jesus Christ has been given to the believer in his new birth. The new nature is characterized by the victory Jesus Christ obtained in His Resurrection. The divine provision is not to strengthen the old nature, He crucified that, but to give all Believers a totally new source of ability for the daily life.

## III. The Exhortation of God Concerning the New Nature.

That ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness, Ephesians 4:24.

Observation: A better translation may be "Having put on" or "Put on once for all". This emphasizes that the work was really done when we accepted Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. However, the attitude of "Having put on" must be maintained by practical, honest, daily choices.

## IV. The Instruction of God Concerning the New Nature.

### A. Daily count on the provision of God, Romans 6:11.

Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### B. Daily choose to say "No" to sin and choose to live virtuously, Romans 6:12.

Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

### C. Daily choose to obey God and trust Him for deliverance and enablement, Rom.6:13.

. . . Yield yourselves unto God . . . .

Conclusion: We must make practical choices - selfishness vs love  
despair vs joy  
worry vs peace  
etc.

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