

The Old and New Nature in the Successful Christian Life

I. The Old Nature and the Christian Life;..

A. A Description of the Old Nature and its Sinful Effects.

1. The old nature defiles the believer and is the source of evil thoughts, Mark 7:18-23.
2. The old nature hinders, weakens, and enslaves the believer, Rom. 7:15-24.
3. The old nature is a contradictory element in the believer, Gal. 5:17.
4. The old nature is a source of sinful actions in the believer, Gal. 5:19-21.
5. The old nature is always a potential ally for Satan. Eph. 4:21-31.

B. The Provision of God Concerning the Old Nature.

1. The provision of the Crucifixion.

- a. Jesus Christ died representing our sinful nature. Rom. 6:1-10.
- b. The believer died to sin in his Representative, Rom. 6:2-5,8; Gal 2:20.
- c. Through the atonement, Jesus Christ has become our sanctification, I Cor. 1:30.

2. The provision in the Holy Spirit.

- a. The Holy Spirit has been sent to glorify Jesus Christ in the believer, John 16:14.
- b. The Holy Spirit has been sent to apply the work of the Crucifixion in the daily life of the believer, Rom. 8:12-14.

C. The Commandment of God Concerning the Old Nature.

1. We are commanded to "put off the old man," Eph. 4:22; Col. 3:9.
2. We are exhorted to claim this great provision of God, Rom. 6:11-13.

D. The Instruction of God Concerning the Old Nature.

1. Daily count upon the provision of God, Rom. 6:11.
2. Daily choose to confess and forsake sin, Rom. 6:12.
3. Daily choose to obey and trust God for deliverance, Rom. 6:13.
(The principle illustrated: Rom. 6:17,28; I John 1:9)

E. The Promise of God Concerning the Old Nature.

1. The promise of deliverance, Rom. 6:14.
2. The promise of cleansing, 1 John 1:9.

II. The New Nature and the Christian Life.

A. A Description of the New Nature and its Beneficial Effects.

1. 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.
2. The new nature is the key for personal assurance of salvation and the key to a successful Christian life, Gal. 6:14,15.
3. The new nature is the source of righteousness and genuine holiness. The Christian, therefore, has the ability to live in righteousness and holiness, Eph. 4:24.

4. The new nature is the source of knowledge. The Christian, therefore, has the ability to know God and His world, Col. 3:10.
5. 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.

B. The Provision of God Concerning the New Nature.

1. The provision in the Resurrection.

- a. Jesus Christ represented the believer in His Resurrection, Rom. 6:4,5.
- b. In the Resurrection He has made the provision for the new nature, I Peter 1:3.
- c. Through the atonement Jesus Christ has become our sanctification, I Cor. 1:30.

2. The provision in the Holy Spirit.

- a. The Holy Spirit has been sent to glorify Jesus Christ in the believer, John 16:14.
- b. The Holy Spirit has been sent to apply the work of the Resurrection in the believer's daily life, Rom. 8:12-14.

C. The Commandment of God Concerning the New Nature.

1. We are commanded to "put on the new man," Eph 4:24; Col 3:10.
2. We are exhorted to claim the provision of God, Rom 6:11-13; Phil 3:10. Col. 3:1.

D. The Instruction of God Concerning the New Nature.

1. Daily count upon the provision of God, Romans 6:11.
2. Daily choose to live above sin and in the power of the Resurrection, Romans 6:12.
3. Daily choose to obey God and trust Him for enablement, Rom 6:13. (The principle illustrated: Rom 6:17,18)

E. The Promise of God Concerning the New Nature.

The promise of an inner spiritual enablement so that the Christian life may be lived successfully, Romans 6:4,5; Ephesians 2:10.

	<u>The Old Nature</u>			<u>The New Nature</u>	
	Selfishness		C	Love	
<u>Result</u>	Despair	A Daily	R	Joy	<u>Result</u>
	Anxiety		U	Peace	
Bitterness	Hopelessness		C	Hope	Freedom
Tension	Doubt		I	Trust	
Bondage	Unbelief		F	Faith	
Passivity	Lust		I	Purity	
	Pride		X	Humility	
	Pretense		I	Honesty	
			O		
			N		

Victor M. Matthews