



# The Riches of Grace in Christ Jesus

## *A New Creature*

- ***2 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.”***
  - What’s it *therefore*?
    - *Therefore* always summarizes what preceded.
      - Let’s read down from *2 Cor 5:12* (also *Rom 6:9-11*)
  - What does it mean to be a *new creature* or *creation*?
    - We’re the same physically, so then how does this happen?
      - *Gal 2:20 - I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.*
      - *Rom 6: 3-5 - Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 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. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:*



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- What things have passed away?
  - *Isaiah 4:19 – Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? **I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.***
    - God often works in metaphors, and they help!
  - *Phil 3:7,8 - But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and **I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord:** for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,*
    - What does the *loss of all things* indicate?
  - Have *all things passed away* from our perspective, and if not what holds us back?
- What things are new?
  - A Spirit-led life.
    - *2 Cor 3:5,6 - Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but **our sufficiency is from God,** who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, **but the Spirit gives life.***



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- ***Gal 6:15 – “For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.”***
  - What did Paul say about *circumcision*?
    - *Rom 2:28-3:1 - For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh; but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God. What advantage then has the Jew, or what is the profit of circumcision?*
      - Was there any, and if not by what principle existed for the OT saints?
    - *Phil 3:3 - For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh,*
      - And the new creation that we are does not work alone!
        - » *John 16:13,14 - “However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.”*



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- ***Eph 2:10 – “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them”.***
  - Should works be our focus?
    - Notice whose *workmanship* we are!
    - And it’s *in Christ Jesus* that good works ensue.
    - These works have been *ordained* (*aorist, active, indicative*) or *to make ready beforehand*.
      - *Rom 9:23 - And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he **had afore prepared unto glory**,*
  - And the pressure is off, it’s a life lived by faith!
    - *John 15:15,16 - Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and **ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit**, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.*
    - *Phil 1:16 - Being confident of this very thing, **that He which hath***



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*begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:*

- *Phil 2:13 For it is **God which worketh in you** both to will and to do of his good pleasure.*
- *Phil 1:21 - For to me to **live is Christ**, and to die is gain.*
- *Heb 13:21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, **working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.***
- *Rom 12:2 - And be not conformed to this world: but **be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*
  - *Renewing of your mind!*
    - » In the Greek - *renewal, renovation, complete change for the better*
    - » Only in *Christ Jesus* – get into the Word!