

September devotional

Being made new in Christ

[Jesus Teaches Nicodemus] Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him." Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again." ...John 3: 1-3 (NIV)

Can a butterfly go back into a cocoon after it's come out as a caterpillar? Of course not. It can't happen. Once the caterpillar becomes a butterfly, it is what it is — a butterfly. When you become a believer, you're like that butterfly — you come out of your cocoon. It may take you some time to fly spiritually, but once you become a new creation in Christ, you are what you are. You are a new creation.

The Bible says in 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Anyone who belongs to Christ is a new person. The past is forgotten, and everything is new" (CEV).

So what does it mean to become a new creation in Christ? The moment you believe in Christ, there's a spiritual metamorphosis — everything changes! This is a matter of faith and not sight.

The greatest step of faith we can take in our lives is to believe what God says about who Jesus is and accept Jesus as our Lord and Saviour.

No more bound to the old life, we have been made new in Christ Jesus. This is the 'born again' experience. The old life has passed away, and the new has come. But is it that easy? Does our old life suddenly disappear when we accept Christ? In a sense, we do become a new creation when we come to Christ, for His blood cleanses us from all our sin. But it is also a process.

Though we are a new creature in Christ, we still have struggles and issues we are working through. Satan does come up against us, and we have this battle going on with the flesh and the spirit. It's not an easy road that we're on, but it is a life-changing journey. We can celebrate and proclaim that we are a new creation in Christ. This is something we need to remind ourselves of when the journey becomes hard. Though there are times we have battles inside, we are still new creations in Jesus Christ

I believe the second greatest step you can take is to believe what God says about who you are. You are a new creation in Christ! The Bible says in Romans 6:14, "Sin is no longer your master, for you no longer live under the requirements of the law. Instead, you live under the freedom of God's grace" (NLT).

A true life, a better life, a wonderful life is only found in Christ. When you become a Christian, you have a new life in him.

With every blessing

Pastor

John