

What's New in Us?

Selected Scriptures

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We've been looking at a brief study on the "New Birth" that was affected in us when we came to Christ. We were taken from the old creation to the new creation. It is important that we know just what was true of the old creature so that we can best appreciate both why this new creation was essential and all that the Lord did in us in that new creation. We had come to asking the question:

A. **So, What is the new birth?** 2 Cor. 5:17.

*¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is **a new creation**; old things have passed away; behold, **all things have become new.***

- There are **a number of terms that can be used** to describe the New Birth...
 - But **Paul, here, uses, despite being general, what is perhaps the best!!**
 - One who has the New Birth **has been taken from being in his old state to being "in Christ"**
 - All of those **old things have "passed away"** and all has **become new!!**
 - The idea is **to get us to realize that all of the things natural to the unredeemed man are now a part of our "old things"!!**
 - We'll **talk about this as we move along!**
- **OLD THINGS** (plural) are **what is NEW to us!!**
 - And it **ISN'T new just on any given January 1st!**
 - It is **a matter that had its' initiation on the date of our salvation or redemption and then...**

- Proceeds to **grow and/or progress** throughout the rest of our lives!
- It is, at least demonstrably, a **progressive matter!**
 - **Not that we earn it,** but that it shows that it is in place!
- **Another thing** for us to think of about the New Birth is that...

I. The corruption of human nature requires a new Birth.

A. Until these things are Changed – Man is What Man is!!

- There is **no such thing** as a “good person” (**insofar as God defines “good”**) in and of themselves!
 - **John 3:6**

*That which is **born of the flesh is flesh**, and that which is **born of the Spirit is spirit.***

- **Not** talking about **human matters...**
- **Talking about** matters of relating with God
 - **Overcoming the curse** of Adam and **resuming** what God **intended men to be and do!!**
- A person is **one OR the other...**
- **Why** one or the other?
- **Rom 8:7–8**

*Because the carnal mind is **enmity against God**; for it is **not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.** 8 So then, **those who are in the flesh cannot please God.***

- It is **important to know** what our essential nature was **BEFORE** Redemption was so that we can best understand the **whys and wherefores of the New Birth...**

B. Just what Was Our nature Before the New Birth?

- These next truths will set us up to understand more **about why** the New Birth **did/does what it does!!**
- For instance:

*1. We were **Born in sin.***

Job 15:14 “**What is man, that he could be pure? And he who is born of a woman, that he could be righteous?**

Job 25:4 **How then can man be righteous before God? Or how can he be pure who is born of a woman?**

Ps 51:5 **Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me.**

Is 48:8 **Surely you did not hear, Surely you did not know; Surely from long ago your ear was not opened. For I knew that you would deal very treacherously, And were called a transgressor from the womb.**

John 3:6 **That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.**

*2. That **Made Him a child of wrath.***

Eph 2:3 **among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were **by nature children of wrath, just as the others.****

*3. **Man, by nature, all men (and women btw) are Evil in heart.***

Gen 6:5 **Then the LORD saw that **the wickedness of man was great in the earth**, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.**

Gen 8:21 **And the LORD smelled a soothing aroma. Then the LORD said in His heart, “I will never again curse the ground for man’s sake, although the imagination of man’s heart is **evil from his youth**; nor will I again destroy every living thing as I have done.**

Jer 16:12 **And you have done worse than your fathers, for behold, **each one follows the dictates of his own evil heart**, so that no one listens to Me.**

Matt 15:19 For **out of the heart proceed evil thoughts,** murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.

4. Men by nature, are Blinded in heart.

Eph 4:18 having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart;

5. Men by nature, are Corrupt and perverse in their ways.

Gen 6:12 So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth.

Pss 10:5 His ways are always prospering; Your judgments are far above, out of his sight; As for all his enemies, he sneers at them.

Rom 3:12–16 They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one.” **13** “Their throat is an open tomb; With their tongues they have practiced deceit”; “The poison of asps is under their lips”; **14** “Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness.” **15** “Their feet are swift to shed blood; **16** Destruction and misery are in their ways;

6. Men/women by nature, are Depraved in their thinking.

Rom 8:5–7 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. **6** For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. **7** Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.

Eph 4:17 This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind,

Col 1:21 And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled

Titus 1:15 To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled.

Heb 10:22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

7. Men by nature, are completely Without genuine or valid spiritual understanding.

Ps 14:2–3 The LORD looks down from heaven upon the children of men, To see if there are any who understand, who seek God. 3 They have all turned aside, They have together become corrupt; There is none who does good, No, not one.

Rom 1:31 undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful;

Rom 3:11 There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God.

8. Man by nature, Does not even WANT to receive the things of God. He is not interested in spiritual truth

1 Cor 2:14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

9. As a result of all of this, man/woman **Come short of God's glory.**

Rom 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

10. These faults and lacks are Intractable.

Job 11:12 For an empty-headed man will be wise, When a wild donkey's colt is born a man.

11. And this gives the terrible result that he is Estranged from God.

Gen 3:8 *And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.*

Ps 58:3 *The wicked are estranged from the womb; They go astray as soon as they are born, speaking lies.*

Eph 4:18 *having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart;*

Col 1:21 *And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled*

12. Not Only is this not able to be changed by the power of men, but men are in bondage to sin.

Rom 6:19 *I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.*

Rom 7:5 *For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death.*

Rom 7:23 *But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.*

Gal 5:17 *For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.*

Titus 3:3 *For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another.*

13. Likewise, he is in bondage to the devil.

2 Tim 2:26 and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

Heb 2:14–15 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, **15** and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

14. Because of that Bondage, Man is Constantly involved in what is evil.

Ps 10:5 His ways are always prospering; Your judgments are far above, out of his sight; As for all his enemies, he sneers at them.

2 Pet 2:14 having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, enticing unstable souls. They have a heart trained in covetous practices, and are accursed children.

15. This is not just a condition like a physical disease – Man by nature, is Conscious of his guilt.

Gen 3:7–8 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings. **8** And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

Gen 3:10 So he said, “I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself.”

Rom. 1:18-25 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God

*has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, **although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful,** but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, **they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man**—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.*

*Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who **exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.***

16. Inescapably, this means that Man is trapped in an Unrighteous State.

*Eccl 7:20 For there is **not a just man on earth who does good** And does not sin.*

*Rom 3:10 As it is written: “**There is none righteous, no, not one;***

17. Likewise, He is Completely corrupt.

Job 15:16 How much less man, who is abominable and filthy, Who drinks iniquity like water!

*Ps 14:3 They **have all turned aside, They have together become corrupt; There is none who does good, No, not one.***

18. He has Turned to his own way.

Is 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

19. He Loves the sinful darkness that he dwells in

John 3:19 *And this is the condemnation, that the **light** has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than **light, because their deeds were evil.***

20. His sinfulness makes him Corrupt, etc., in speech.

Rom 3:13–14 *“Their **throat is an open tomb**; With their tongues they have practiced deceit”; “The poison of asps is under their lips”; **14** “Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness.”*

21. Further, he is, what the Scripture describes being “Devoid of the fear of God”.

Rom 3:18 *“There is no fear of God before their eyes.”*

22. That gives us the theological state that is described as being “Totally depraved”.

Gen 6:5 *Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*

Rom 7:18 *For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find.*

Eph 2:1 *And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins,*

Col 2:13 *And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,*

- All of that **brings us to the conclusion** that Jesus, and the rest of the NT speak of the fact that...

II. None can enter heaven without the New Birth.

John 3:3 *Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”*
