

Message Five

Our Need to Walk in Newness of Life, to Serve in Newness of Spirit, and to Be Renewed in Our Inner Man Day by Day

Hymns:

Scripture Reading: Rev. 21:5a; Rom. 6:4; 7:6; 12:2;
2 Cor. 4:16; 5:17; Gal. 6:15

- Rev. 21:5 And He who sits on the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And He said, Write, for these words are faithful and true.
- Rom. 6:4 We have been buried therefore with Him through baptism into His death, in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so also we might walk in newness of life.
- Rom. 7:6 But now we have been discharged from the law, having died to that in which we were held, so that we serve in newness of spirit and not in oldness of letter.
- Rom. 12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.
- 2 Cor. 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.
- 2 Cor. 5:17 So then if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold, they have become new.
- Gal. 6:15 For neither is circumcision anything nor uncircumcision, but a new creation is what matters.

I. "He who sits on the throne said, Behold, I make all things new"—Rev. 21:5a.

- Rev. 21:5 And He who sits on the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And He said, Write, for these words are faithful and true.

II. As believers in Christ, we have been made a new creation—a person regenerated with the life of God and living in the inner man, not in the outer man—2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 6:15; John 3:3, 5-6, 15; 2 Cor. 4:16.

- 2 Cor. 5:17 So then if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold, they have become new.
- Gal. 6:15 For neither is circumcision anything nor uncircumcision, but a new creation is what matters.
- John 3:3 Jesus answered and said to him, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God.
- John 3:5 Jesus answered, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.
- John 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
- John 3:15 That everyone who believes into Him may have eternal life.
- 2 Cor. 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man

is being renewed day by day.

III. As a new creation in Christ Jesus, we need to walk in newness of life—Rom. 6:4:

- Rom. 6:4 We have been buried therefore with Him through baptism into His death, in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so also we might walk in newness of life.
- A. To walk in newness of life means to live in the realm of resurrection and to reign in life—v. 4; 5:17.
- Rom. 6:4 We have been buried therefore with Him through baptism into His death, in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so also we might walk in newness of life.
- Rom. 5:17 For if, by the offense of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.
- B. Concerning the matter of life, Romans 5:10 says that we will be saved in the life of God's Son, 5:17 speaks of reigning in life, and 6:4 declares that we have died and have been buried with Christ so that we may walk in newness of life.
- Rom. 5:10 For if we, being enemies, were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more we will be saved in His life, having been reconciled,
- Rom. 5:17 For if, by the offense of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.
- Rom. 6:4 We have been buried therefore with Him through baptism into His death, in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so also we might walk in newness of life.
- C. After baptism we become a new person in resurrection; resurrection is not only a future state but also a present process—2 Cor. 5:17; Phil. 3:10-11.
- 2 Cor. 5:17 So then if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold, they have become new.
- Phil. 3:10 To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,
- Phil. 3:11 If perhaps I may attain to the out-resurrection from the dead.
- D. We were buried with Christ into His death, and we have been resurrected as He was; hence, we should walk in newness of life—Col. 2:12; Eph. 2:5; Rom. 6:4.
- Col. 2:12 Buried together with Him in baptism, in which also you were raised together with Him through the faith of the operation of God, who raised Him from the dead.
- Eph. 2:5 Even when we were dead in offenses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)
- Rom. 6:4 We have been buried therefore with Him through baptism into His death, in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so also we might walk in newness of life.
- E. Newness of life is closely related to the life-giving Spirit, who is Christ Himself in His resurrection; the Spirit is the way to walk in newness of life—1 Cor. 15:45b.
- 1 Cor. 15:45 So also it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living soul"; the last Adam became a life-giving Spirit.
- F. Walking in newness of life is the kind of living that deals with all that is of Adam in us until we are fully transformed and conformed to the image of Christ—Rom. 8:29.

Rom. 8:29 Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers;

IV. As a new creation in Christ Jesus, we need to serve in newness of spirit—7:6:

Rom. 7:6 But now we have been discharged from the law, having died to that in which we were held, so that we serve in newness of spirit and not in oldness of letter.

A. Our living should be in newness of life, and our service should be in newness of spirit—v. 6:

Rom. 7:6 But now we have been discharged from the law, having died to that in which we were held, so that we serve in newness of spirit and not in oldness of letter.

1. There should be no oldness in either our living or our service.

2. Concerning our service, we should have the newness of spirit instead of the oldness of law and letter—2 Cor. 5:17; Rom. 7:6.

2 Cor. 5:17 So then if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold, they have become new.

Rom. 7:6 But now we have been discharged from the law, having died to that in which we were held, so that we serve in newness of spirit and not in oldness of letter.

B. In Romans 6:4 newness of life issues from our being identified with Christ's resurrection and is for our walk in our daily life.

Rom. 6:4 We have been buried therefore with Him through baptism into His death, in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so also we might walk in newness of life.

C. In Romans 7:6 newness of spirit issues from our being discharged from the law and being joined to the resurrected Christ and is for our service to God.

Rom. 7:6 But now we have been discharged from the law, having died to that in which we were held, so that we serve in newness of spirit and not in oldness of letter.

D. Both newness of spirit and newness of life are results of the crucifixion of our old man—6:6.

Rom. 6:6 Knowing this, that our old man has been crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be annulled, that we should no longer serve sin as slaves;

E. In Romans 7:6 newness of spirit refers to our regenerated human spirit, in which the Lord as the Spirit dwells—2 Tim. 4:22:

Rom. 7:6 But now we have been discharged from the law, having died to that in which we were held, so that we serve in newness of spirit and not in oldness of letter.

2 Tim. 4:22 The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.

1. Everything that is related to our regenerated spirit is new, and everything that comes out of our spirit is new—John 3:6; 4:23-24; Rom. 1:9; Eph. 6:18.

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

John 4:23 But an hour is coming, and it is now, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truthfulness, for the Father also seeks such to worship Him.

John 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.

Rom. 1:9 For God is my witness, whom I serve in my spirit in the gospel of His Son, how unceasingly I make mention of you always in my prayers,

Eph. 6:18 By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints,

2. Our regenerated spirit is a source of newness because the Lord, the life of God, and the

Holy Spirit are there—1 Cor. 6:17; 2 Cor. 3:16-18.

1 Cor. 6:17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit.

2 Cor. 3:16 But whenever their heart turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

2 Cor. 3:17 And the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

2 Cor. 3:18 But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.

3. Like Paul, we should serve God in our regenerated spirit by the indwelling Christ, the life-giving Spirit, not in our soul by the power and ability of the soul—Rom. 1:9.

Rom. 1:9 For God is my witness, whom I serve in my spirit in the gospel of His Son, how unceasingly I make mention of you always in my prayers,

V. **The Christian life is a life of being renewed; we need to be renewed in our inner man day by day—2 Cor. 4:16; Rom. 12:2; Eph. 4:23:**

2 Cor. 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.

Rom. 12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.

Eph. 4:23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind

A. Our outer man is being consumed, but our inner man is being renewed day by day—2 Cor. 4:16:

2 Cor. 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.

1. The outer man consists of the body as its organ with the soul as its life and person.

2. The inner man consists of the regenerated spirit as its life and person with the renewed soul as its organ.

B. In our experience we are in the process of becoming a new creation by being broken and renewed—5:17; 4:10-12, 16; Eph. 4:22-24:

2 Cor. 5:17 So then if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold, they have become new.

2 Cor. 4:10 Always bearing about in the body the putting to death of Jesus that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.

2 Cor. 4:11 For we who are alive are always being delivered unto death for Jesus' sake that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

2 Cor. 4:12 So then death operates in us, but life in you.

2 Cor. 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.

Eph. 4:22 That you put off, as regards your former manner of life, the old man, which is being corrupted according to the lusts of the deceit,

Eph. 4:23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind

Eph. 4:24 And put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.

1. In the sense of being in Christ, we are a new creation, but in actuality in our daily life, we are not that new because we do not yet have Christ as the only One who occupies us, fills us, and is our life, nature, appearance, and expression—Gal. 2:20; 4:19; 2 Cor. 3:18; Eph. 3:16-17.

- Gal. 2:20 I am crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.
- Gal. 4:19 My children, with whom I travail again in birth until Christ is formed in you,
- 2 Cor. 3:18 But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.
- Eph. 3:16 That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man,
- Eph. 3:17 That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,
2. We have been regenerated, but still there is a mixture in our daily living because our living is partly the new creation and even more the old creation—2 Cor. 5:17; Rom. 8:4, 14.
- 2 Cor. 5:17 So then if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold, they have become new.
- Rom. 8:4 That the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the spirit.
- Rom. 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.
3. Although our spirit has been regenerated, our soul with its faculties of mind, will, and emotion remains in the old creation and needs to be renewed—12:2; Eph. 4:23.
- Rom. 12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.
- Eph. 4:23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind
4. The cross is the greatest help to accomplish the renewing for us—Matt. 16:24; 2 Cor. 4:10-12.
- Matt. 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, If anyone wants to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.
- 2 Cor. 4:10 Always bearing about in the body the putting to death of Jesus that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.
- 2 Cor. 4:11 For we who are alive are always being delivered unto death for Jesus' sake that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.
- 2 Cor. 4:12 So then death operates in us, but life in you.
5. To be renewed is to have God's ever-new essence dispensed into us to replace and discharge our old element—v. 16; Rom. 12:2; Titus 3:5.
- 2 Cor. 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.
- Rom. 12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.
- Titus 3:5 Not out of works in righteousness which we did but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Spirit,
6. Through the process of renewing, we are transferred from the realm of the old creation into the realm of the new creation to become the New Jerusalem—Col. 3:10; Rev. 21:2.
- Col. 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

Rev. 21:2 And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

C. In our Christian life for God's purpose, we need to pass through the process of renewing—a process that involves suffering—Rom. 8:17-18; 2 Cor. 1:7; 4:10-11, 17; 1 Pet. 4:13; 5:9:

Rom. 8:17 And if children, heirs also; on the one hand, heirs of God; on the other, joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him that we may also be glorified with Him.

Rom. 8:18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the coming glory to be revealed upon us.

2 Cor. 1:7 And our hope for you is firm, knowing that as you are partakers of the sufferings, so also you are of the comfort.

2 Cor. 4:10 Always bearing about in the body the putting to death of Jesus that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.

2 Cor. 4:11 For we who are alive are always being delivered unto death for Jesus' sake that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

2 Cor. 4:17 For our momentary lightness of affliction works out for us, more and more surpassingly, an eternal weight of glory,

1 Pet. 4:13 But inasmuch as you share in the sufferings of Christ, rejoice, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice exultingly.

1 Pet. 5:9 Him withstand, being firm in your faith, knowing that the same sufferings are being accomplished among your brotherhood in the world.

1. We are destined to suffer so that we may be renewed; all sufferings are the process to make us new—Col. 1:24; Phil. 1:29; 2 Cor. 1:6; 4:17.

Col. 1:24 I now rejoice in my sufferings on your behalf and fill up on my part that which is lacking of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for His Body, which is the church;

Phil. 1:29 Because to you it has been graciously granted on behalf of Christ not only to believe into Him but also to suffer on His behalf,

2 Cor. 1:6 But whether we are afflicted, it is for your comforting and salvation; or whether we are comforted, it is for your comforting, which operates in the endurance of the same sufferings which we also suffer.

2 Cor. 4:17 For our momentary lightness of affliction works out for us, more and more surpassingly, an eternal weight of glory,

2. All the sufferings that God has assigned to us have one unique purpose—to renew us—Rom. 12:2; Eph. 4:23; Titus 3:5.

Rom. 12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.

Eph. 4:23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind

Titus 3:5 Not out of works in righteousness which we did but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Spirit,

3. The sufferings that we pass through are a process to transfer us from the realm of the old creation to the realm of the new creation—2 Cor. 5:17.

2 Cor. 5:17 So then if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold, they have become new.

4. The suffering that we pass through to be renewed does not compare with the glory of our being new—4:17-18; Rom. 8:18.

2 Cor. 4:17 For our momentary lightness of affliction works out for us, more and more surpassingly, an eternal weight of glory,

- 2 Cor. 4:18 Because we do not regard the things which are seen but the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.
- Rom. 8:18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the coming glory to be revealed upon us.

5. As we pass through afflictions, there needs to be a continual renewing taking place in us day by day so that God can accomplish His heart's desire—2 Cor. 4:16-17; Eph. 1:4-5, 9, 11-12.

- 2 Cor. 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.
- 2 Cor. 4:17 For our momentary lightness of affliction works out for us, more and more surpassingly, an eternal weight of glory,
- Eph. 1:4 Even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blemish before Him in love,
- Eph. 1:5 Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,
- Eph. 1:9 Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself,
- Eph. 1:11 In whom also we were designated as an inheritance, having been predestinated according to the purpose of the One who works all things according to the counsel of His will,
- Eph. 1:12 That we would be to the praise of His glory who have first hoped in Christ,

D. The renewing of the inner man takes place as the inner man is nourished with the fresh supply of the resurrection life of Christ—John 11:25; Phil. 3:10:

- John 11:25 Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes into Me, even if he should die, shall live;
- Phil. 3:10 To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

1. As our outer man is being consumed by the killing work of death, our inner man—our regenerated spirit with our inward parts—is being metabolically renewed day by day with the supply of resurrection life—Jer. 31:33; Heb. 8:10; Rom. 7:22, 25; 12:2; 2 Cor. 4:16; Eph. 4:23.

- Jer. 31:33 But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares Jehovah: I will put My law in their inward parts and write it upon their hearts; and I will be their God, and they will be My people.
- Heb. 8:10 For this is the covenant which I will covenant with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will impart My laws into their mind, and on their hearts I will inscribe them; and I will be God to them, and they will be a people to Me.
- Rom. 7:22 For I delight in the law of God according to the inner man,
- Rom. 7:25 Thanks be to God, through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh, the law of sin.
- Rom. 12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.
- 2 Cor. 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.
- Eph. 4:23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind

2. The more our inner man is renewed, the more the functions of our soul are also renewed—Rom. 12:2.

Rom. 12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.

3. Our mingled spirit spreads into our mind and becomes the spirit of the mind; it is in such a spirit that we are being renewed for our transformation—Eph. 4:23; 2 Cor. 3:18; Rom. 12:2.

Eph. 4:23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind

2 Cor. 3:18 But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.

Rom. 12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.

E. Because we have been born of God to be children of God with the life and nature of God, we all have the divine element energizing in us—John 1:12-13; 3:15; 1 John 5:11-12; 2 Pet. 1:3-4:

John 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the authority to become children of God, to those who believe into His name,

John 1:13 Who were begotten not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

John 3:15 That everyone who believes into Him may have eternal life.

1 John 5:11 And this is the testimony, that God gave to us eternal life and this life is in His Son.

1 John 5:12 He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

2 Pet. 1:3 Seeing that His divine power has granted to us all things which relate to life and godliness, through the full knowledge of Him who has called us by His own glory and virtue,

2 Pet. 1:4 Through which He has granted to us precious and exceedingly great promises that through these you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption which is in the world by lust.

1. In this divine element is the renewing capacity—Rom. 12:2.

Rom. 12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.

2. In the resurrection life of Christ, the divine life has the renewing capacity—John 11:25; Phil. 3:10; Rev. 21:5a.

John 11:25 Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes into Me, even if he should die, shall live;

Phil. 3:10 To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

Rev. 21:5 And He who sits on the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And He said, Write, for these words are faithful and true.

3. The capacity in the divine life is renewing us in all our actions—Rom. 6:4; 7:6.

Rom. 6:4 We have been buried therefore with Him through baptism into His death, in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so also we might walk in newness of life.

Rom. 7:6 But now we have been discharged from the law, having died to that in which we were held, so that we serve in newness of spirit and not in oldness of letter.

4. We need to experience and enjoy the renewing capacity in the resurrection life of Christ so that we may be renewed in our inner man day by day—2 Cor. 1:9; 4:16.

2 Cor. 1:9 Indeed we ourselves had the response of death in ourselves, that we should not base our confidence on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead;

2 Cor. 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.