



*Mary Craig Ministries, Inc.*

*Life's New Perspective*

*A Communion Message*

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*Dr. Mary Craig*

We have an exploding number of people today plagued by addiction. Some call it “hurts, habits, and hang-ups.” From very young, more and more people cannot live in the presence of the pain.

They don't know how to handle it. They don't like feeling uncomfortable. Experts say, “The environment must change.”

There is a solution. We can have a new perspective. We can live in a new environment, a new place, in a new and living way. That is exactly what happens with the Holy Spirit and the Word of God. That is what happens when we are transferred from the kingdom of darkness into the Kingdom of God's dear Son, Jesus Christ. When the Holy Spirit regenerates, renews, and applies the finished work of Christ to our hearts such that we are “born again,” we live in Christ, in the presence of the Living God. The faith to repent of our sins is a gift from God. With opened eyes and a new heart given by His grace, we come to the Truth, acknowledge Truth, and turn to live in Truth. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. Every believer can have a new perspective by understanding and believing what the Word of God proclaims as new life in Christ.

#### **God has made us new in Christ.**

- 2 Corinthians 5:17. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.
- Colossians 3:9-10. ...\_Do not lie to one another, since you have put off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.
- Isaiah 43:18-19. Do not remember the former things, Nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing. Now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it?
- 2 Corinthians 4:16-17. **16** Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. **17** For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,
- Revelation 21:1. Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away.

What happened that results in this newness, in our walking in a new and living way? Quite simply, we were born again, born out of God, born by the will of God. No one can enter the

kingdom of God without being born again, born from above, born of water and the Spirit; and it is God who creates us as a new creature, a new creation. John 1:13, John 3:5.

**All things are become new.** Let's consider 2 Corinthians 5:17. It begins with a "therefore." The "therefore" means we have to go back to verses 14-16 where we learn that all believers have died with Christ and no longer live for themselves. All things are made new. We enter the kingdom of God, which is peace, joy, and righteousness in the Holy Spirit. It is not by works of righteousness that we have done, but according to His mercy that He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit. Titus 3:4-7.

*<sup>4</sup> But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, <sup>5</sup> not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup> that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Titus 3:4-7.*

So rituals don't save. Mother church doesn't save. Angels don't save us. We cannot save ourselves. We cannot do anything to bring about our own salvation. The Holy Spirit does the work of salvation and **God poured out** on us the Holy Spirit abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior. That's how we enter the kingdom of God. That's how we become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. God does it. God makes all things new for the true believer.

All true believers have died with Christ (Colossians 3:1). We have died and our life is hid with Christ in God. We're talking about something spiritual. Our "death" is that of the old sin nature which was nailed to the cross with Christ. It was buried with Him, and just as He was raised up by the Father, so are we raised up to "walk in newness of life" ([Romans 6:4](#)). Believers have a new Federal head, Jesus Christ, the Federal head of a new humanity. Romans 5:12ff.

So, the believer has died with Christ. (2 Cor. 5:14.) Christ is his Substitute, has borne his sins, and has made complete satisfaction for his guilt. What Christ has done is imputed to the believer in the one-time act of justification. He was condemned; now he is justified.

The believer partakes of the life of Christ. He is "risen with Christ" ([Colossians 3:1](#)). He has received the Spirit of Christ. Having been justified, he is now being sanctified. The likeness of the Redeemer is being wrought upon and in him by the Holy Spirit. All things are become new. Having been imputed, the righteousness of Christ now is applied by the Holy Spirit. The love of Christ constrains that the believer lives, not to himself/herself, but to Christ.

**Newness manifests in all things.** It manifests in the believer's human spirit, speech, character, acts, plans, purposes, desires, etc. There is no part of the believer's life which the newness does not affect. A great change has taken place. Old things are passed away.

**All things becoming new means a transformed life.** More than professing Christ, those born out of God for real have been transformed; made new creatures by God the Creator/Redeemer. "Ye must be born again" ([John 3:7](#)). The test is beyond appeal. The sentence of the judgment will proceed upon the assumption of its infallibility (ver. 10).

*For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, 2 Corinthians 5:10*

All people in Christ become new creatures. This is for all kinds of people. "This newness is not to be waited for till we enter another world. It belongs to this sphere in which we now are.

Unless we are new creatures in this world we shall not be new creatures in another. It is on earth that "new creatures" are specially needed." - H. "A New Creature" 2 Corinthians 5:17 E.

Hurndall 1885 [https://biblehub.com/sermons/auth/hurndall/a\\_new\\_creature.htm](https://biblehub.com/sermons/auth/hurndall/a_new_creature.htm)

**All things are of God.** God created Adam in a covenant of works, a covenant of creation. He was made in the image of God, but Adam with free will rejected the wisdom of God, believed and swallowed a lie, and plunged himself and all humanity into an estate of sin and misery. He rejected Christ, the wisdom of God, and died a spiritual death that meant that all humanity is dead in trespasses and sins. We call it living in darkness, souls bound in bondage to sin, to the flesh, to the Adamic nature, to the wisdom of this world, to Satan and the world system, to pride of self, selfishness, fools.

All things are of God. Nothing in the new creation of grace is of man. God implants the seed of life. God pardons, justifies, sanctifies, adopts, and empowers relationship with Himself. God preserves. God grants privileges, all flowing from electing love and special grace.

If there is any good thought and intent of our hearts, it is of God. God is the Creator/Redeemer. He designed the work of salvation. He planned it. He purposed it. He sent the ransom price. He made it happen.

God applies what Jesus Christ has accomplished through His perfect life of obedience, death, resurrection, ascension, and ruling as King of kings and Lord of lords. He does this: God the Holy Spirit.

**God is faithful, and God does it.** The Holy Spirit convicts of sin, righteousness, and judgment. He cuts to the heart, pricks the conscience, reveals the need for a Savior, a Lord; convinces us that we are shut up in sin totally unable to contribute anything to our own salvation, and converts by regenerating our hearts and renewing us such that He saves us. God corrects us, makes crooked places straight. God completes, preserving us and enabling by His Holy Spirit to persevere. Phil. 1:6. All things are of God, the Living God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Charles Spurgeon: [2 Corinthians 5:18-21](#)

*And all things are of God, who has reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and has given to us the ministry of reconciliation;...*

Taking from the sermon by Charles Spurgeon on 2 Corinthians 5:18-21: There cannot be anything of man. What can a dead man do towards his own resurrection? How can depraved humanity bear any good fruit, the fruit of righteousness in the kingdom of God? Every good and perfect gift is from above.

*Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. James 1:17*

**All the glory is God's.** "Now if that be so the work must have been His; for where the work is, there must be the merit." [C. H. Spurgeon.](#)

[https://biblehub.com/sermons/auth/spurgeon/high\\_doctrine.htm](https://biblehub.com/sermons/auth/spurgeon/high_doctrine.htm)

**God gives us a new life perspective.** This humbles us. This excites us. This gives us consolation and comfort. This encourages us.

Our worth comes from God's worth. He washes us from our filth. He robes us with Christ's righteousness. He pardons our guilt. He forgives our sin. He removes transgression far from us.

He chose us from before the foundation of the world, before anything was made, before we were ever born on this earth. He is our Creator. He is our Redeemer. We have a destiny, a destiny in Christ, a destiny purposed for us by the Living God.

The new creation is just that, a new act of creation wrought by the act of God the Creator. John 1:13. It happens because of the will of God. It is new. The old sin nature, the Adamic nature, has passed away. We are to live as those who have died, whose lives are hid in Christ in God. Everything is fresh and different. We are to put off the old self, the old “man,” the old sinful nature and to put on Christ, to put on the new nature. We have been born again, putting on the new nature, the new self, created by God to be like God in true righteousness and holiness (Ephesians 4:24). Our new “self” hates sin; we are being conformed to the moral image of Jesus Christ. The truly born-out-of-God one will not continue in sin, though such may sin and feel the fatherly displeasure of the Living God.

Now for those of you who want more...

Literal: Therefore, if indeed any one is in Christ, he is a new creation. The Greek word for “new” here is *kainos*, ἐν Χριστῷ **καινῆ** κτίσις τὰ GRK 2537. It means “new, fresh, unused, novel.”

**2537** *kainós* – properly, *new* in *quality* (innovation), *fresh* in development or opportunity – because “not found exactly like this before.” Here, *καινά τά πάντα*, all things are new, previously non-existent, begin to be far different from what they were before, [2 Corinthians 5:17](#) (L T Tr WH omit *τά πάντα*) All things are become new. It’s unheard of, unprecedented.

*Neos* in Greek means new in respect to age like newborn, or Neo-Platonism. But this word “*kainos*” means every day hope, no matter what we’re going through. It is called the Blessed Hope and when we remember the Lord’s death until He comes, we rejoice that ours is a perspective of LIFE, a life that endures as eternal life. In the world we have momentary light affliction compared to the glory of God. Christ in us is the hope of glory. Whether we live or die, we are the Lord’s. Either way, we live in the power of Jesus’ endless life.

Wishing you a happy new perspective of LIFE in 2020 and beyond,

*Mary Craig*

Mary Craig, D. Min.

*“For me to live is Christ; to die is gain.” The Apostle Paul, Philippians 1:21*

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