

Brand New – 2

Romans 6:4 (NLT)

⁴ For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may **live new lives**.

God's Grace is so much more than forgiveness. That's just the beginning. God has given us all the power we need to live a "Brand New" Life in this world. And eternal life beyond that.

Colossians 3:3 (NLT)

³ For you died to this life, and your **real life** is hidden with Christ in God.

Luke 9:23 (NLT)

²³ Then he said to the crowd, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross daily, and follow me.

In **Romans 10:9** it states that we should confess Jesus as Lord Lord – *kurios* – *master, owner, supreme in authority*

Most western believers confess Jesus as merely Savior – this does not bring freedom

- The word savior is found 36 times in the Bible
- The word lord occurs over 7,800 times
- Savior describes the work He has done
- Lord declares a position He has in your life

Because most people only accept Jesus as Savior they still possess a spiritual nature that is corrupt and evil

Our lives must be submitted to and built upon His Lordship if we are going to see a transformation in our lives

When we receive him as Lord, His nature is on the inside and **now we can choose** who we will serve – **Romans 6**

1 John 2:1–6 (NLT)

My dear children, I am writing this to you so that you will not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate who pleads our case before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the one who is truly righteous. ² He himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins—and not only our sins but the sins of all the world.

³ And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments. ⁴ If someone claims, “I know God,” but doesn’t obey God’s commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in the truth. ⁵ But those who obey God’s word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. ⁶ Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did.

- John’s intention for writing this letter is so we will not sin
- If we do, we have an advocate
- Obeying His commands is a sign of knowing Him
- Jesus said eternal life was knowing the Father and the Son
- When we know God we have a revelation of His love
- When we know His Love we love Him and obey
- Living in God’s love empowers us to live as Jesus did

It is clear that our foundation is the Lordship of Jesus Christ

To build on this foundation we must have the right goals

A clear vision of what a life surrendered to Him looks like

- Question: What is your ultimate goal?
- What desire outweighs all the others? – can you be honest?
- Is our internal spiritual GPS set on the right course?

Philippians 3:14 (NLT)

¹⁴ I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.

Most of us desire similar things in life but it's important to make a distinction which is our primary goal

At some point in life we will have to choose between these things and the Lordship of Jesus

- Is it your ultimate goal to be rich and influential, or to have a lot of friends?
- Or is it to be a well-known speaker, artist or leader, or simply to have a certain number of followers on twitter or Facebook
- You may even attain this status as a “Good Christian”
- If any of these takes Gods place, we may end up in isolation

2 Chronicles 26:1, 4, 5, 9, 10, 13, 16, 21 (NLT)

All the people of Judah had crowned Amaziah's sixteen-year-old son, Uzziah, as king in place of his father.

⁴ He did what was pleasing in the LORD's sight, just as his father, Amaziah, had done.

⁵ Uzziah sought God during the days of Zechariah, who taught him to fear God. And as long as the king sought guidance from the LORD, God gave him success.

⁹ Uzziah built fortified towers in Jerusalem at the Corner Gate, at the Valley Gate, and at the angle in the wall.

¹⁰ He also constructed forts in the wilderness and dug many water cisterns, because he kept great herds of livestock in the foothills of Judah* and on the plains. He was also a man who loved the soil. He had many workers who cared for his farms and vineyards, both on the hillsides and in the fertile valleys.

¹³ The army consisted of 307,500 men, all elite troops. They were prepared to assist the king against any enemy.

¹⁶ But when he had become powerful, he also became proud, which led to his downfall. He sinned against the LORD his God by entering the sanctuary of the LORD's Temple and personally burning incense on the incense altar.

- He put himself in the place of God
- He became lord of his own life

²¹ So King Uzziah had leprosy until the day he died. He lived in isolation in a separate house, for he was excluded from the Temple of the LORD. His son Jotham was put in charge of the royal palace, and he governed the people of the land.

Let's look at another king – a prince of Egypt – Moses

At the time Egypt was the most powerful nation of the earth

He was brought up with no lack of money, food, clothing, material possessions, or education

No one in the world possessed anything he couldn't have

He wore designer clothes, could shop with an unlimited budget and probably had all the "toys" that were popular at the time

He had the fastest Chariot (Lamborghini, Ferrari, Maserati and the latest models of Harley Davidson)

He never had to scrub a toilet, wash out a bathtub, mow the lawn or do any other household chore

He had royal chefs to prepare his meals

He could lead troops if he wanted to, design buildings or plan parties

He could marry any girl he wanted and even build a harem

He could give generous gifts to whomever he wanted

He could summon the police or the secret service

He could influence the entertainment of his country and request the best performers and actors to entertain him

Nothing was withheld from except the king's throne

Yet he chose to walk away from the affluent lifestyle he had enjoyed

Hebrews 11:24–25 (The Message)

By faith, Moses, when grown, refused the privileges of the Egyptian royal house. He chose a hard life with God's people rather than an opportunistic soft life of sin with the oppressors.

- Moses's internal GPS dictated that his true desire couldn't be attained where he currently resided

Hebrews 11:26 (NLT)

²⁶ He thought it was better to suffer for the sake of Christ than to own the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking ahead to his great reward.

- What was the great reward?
- Could it be the Promised Land
- It would have had nothing he didn't already possess
- What was the reward Moses sought?
- He probably didn't know the day he left
- He just knew there was something more
- A longing this world couldn't meet

It's like this...

- You hate winter, you know you have to head south for warmer weather and the beach
- You don't know exactly where you're heading but you know it's better than the freezing cold
- In the middle of the trip you see a picture of West Palm Beach Fla. And you know – that's it!
- You program your GPS and head toward your destination

2 Corinthians 6:17 (NLT)

¹⁷ Therefore, come out from among unbelievers, and separate yourselves from them, says the LORD. Don't touch their filthy things, and I will welcome you.

Moses may not have known what he longed for at the time but 40 years later on the backside of the desert he would experience God's presence and realize that was it!

The proof of it would come later when he led the people of God out of Egypt

Exodus 33:1–3 (NLT)

The LORD said to Moses, "Get going, you and the people you brought up from the land of Egypt. Go up to the land I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. I told them, 'I will give this land to your descendants.'"² And I will send an angel before you to drive out the Canaanites, Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites.³ Go up to this land that flows with milk and honey. But I will not travel among you, for you are a stubborn and rebellious people. If I did, I would surely destroy you along the way."

- Think about the conditions Moses and the people faced daily
- No beautiful valleys, streams, forests, fruit trees, fresh water, fertile soil or pastures for grazing livestock
- Their diet is this strange bread that appears on the ground in the morning
- Periodically quail for meat

After forty years of waiting to head to the promised land God is giving instruction for that entry

- All they have known is building cities for the Egyptians and getting the leftovers
- They now will have a chance to build their own houses and dwell in their own land
- A chance to develop a new culture
- God would send an angel to deliver them from their enemies yet God Himself would not go with them – What?

Look at Moses's response

Exodus 33:15 (NLT)

¹⁵ Then Moses said, “If you don’t personally go with us, don’t make us leave this place.

- Remember where “this place” was
- He was saying if I have to choose between your presence and your blessing – I’ll take your presence
- A place of lack and hardship with God’s presence is better than His blessings without His presence

Moses was the one who left luxury

The people left bondage yet their response is quite different

Numbers 14:3 (NLT)

³ “Why is the LORD taking us to this country only to have us die in battle? Our wives and our little ones will be carried off as plunder! Wouldn’t it be better for us to return to Egypt?”

The reason their response is so different is because Moses heard the word of the Lord firsthand the people only heard it from Moses

When God invited them into His presence they rejected the offer because they were afraid – and they said You talk to Moses and he can talk to us

Exodus 19:5–6, 10-11 (The Message)

If you will listen obediently to what I say and keep my covenant, out of all peoples you'll be my special treasure. The whole Earth is mine to choose from, but you're special: a kingdom of priests, a holy nation.' "This is what I want you to tell the People of Israel."

GOD said to Moses, "Go to the people. For the next two days get these people ready to meet the Holy GOD. Have them scrub their clothes so that on the third day they'll be fully prepared, because on the third day GOD will come down on Mount Sinai and make his presence known to all the people.

Exodus 20:19 (NLT)

¹⁹ And they said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen. But don't let God speak directly to us, or we will die!"

- The people couldn't handle God's presence because they still had too much of Egypt in their hearts
- They **still loved their own interests** over His
- Knowing Him intimately wasn't a priority

When God led the people out of bondage His intention was to lead them to worship Him in the wilderness before entering the Promised Land

Exodus 7:16 (NLT)

¹⁶ Then announce to him, ‘The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, has sent me to tell you, “Let my people go, so they can worship me in the wilderness.”’

- 7 times this is where God tells Pharaoh He is taking His people
- Moses was to lead the people to worship the Lord
- Why bring them into the Promised Land before leading them to the Promiser?
- Yet that’s what we still do
- We want the blessings but not God
- Give me, give me, give me
- Seek first – **Matthew 6:33**

Exodus 19:4 (NLT)

⁴ ‘You have seen what I did to the Egyptians. You know how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself.

Psalms 84:10 (NLT)

¹⁰ A single day in your courts is better than a thousand anywhere else! I would rather be a gatekeeper in the house of my God than live the good life in the homes of the wicked.

God's desire is the same today – to know us!

2 Corinthians 6:16–7:1 (NLT)

¹⁶ And what union can there be between God's temple and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God said:

“I will live in them
and walk among them.

I will be their God,
and they will be my people.

¹⁷ Therefore, come out from among unbelievers,
and separate yourselves from them, says the LORD.

Don't touch their filthy things,
and I will welcome you.

¹⁸ And I will be your Father,
and you will be my sons and daughters,
says the LORD Almighty.”

Chapter 7

Because we have these promises, dear friends, let us cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit. And let us work toward complete holiness because we fear God.