

Brand New – 4

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*

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 to serve – **Romans 6**

No Slide: Exodus 33:11 (NLT)

¹¹ Inside the Tent of Meeting, the LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend..

- I no longer call you slaves but friends – John 15:15

No Slide: Romans 5:10 (NLT)

¹⁰ For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son

James 4:4 (NLT)

⁴ You adulterers! Don't you realize that friendship with the world makes you an enemy of God? I say it again: If you want to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God.

1 John 5:21 (NLT)

²¹ Dear children, keep away from anything that might take God's place in your hearts.

2 Corinthians 7:10 (NLT)

¹⁰ For the kind of sorrow God wants us to experience leads us away from sin and results in salvation. There's no regret for that kind of sorrow. But worldly sorrow, which lacks repentance, results in spiritual death.

Hebrews 12:14 (NLT)

¹⁴ Work at living in peace with everyone, and work at living a holy life, for those who are not holy will not see the Lord.

- People like to ignore NT scriptures like this
 - “I’m free and living in God’s grace”
 - “Don’t bring me under God’s law”
- NT holiness is not connected to works of the law or legalism
- It’s a magnificent way to live life

This is a bold statement – without holiness NO ONE will see the Lord

Another way to describe seeing the Lord would be experiencing His presence

According to scripture we should be

John 14:19 (The Message)

In just a little while the world will no longer see me, but you’re going to see me because I am alive and you’re about to come alive.

- We can see Him
- We see Him in a way the world can not

Why is it important to see God?

- If we don’t see Him we can’t know Him
- We can only know about Him

When we know Him we behold Him or His glory
His glory or likeness will change (transform) us

2 Corinthians 3:18 (ESV)

¹⁸ And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

- Have you ever met someone who claims to know the Lord, and has for some time, yet lives in a way that looks as if they have never met Him?
- That is because they are not experiencing the transformation process

Paul prophesied that in the last days there would be persecution from Christians who don't keep the words of Jesus towards those who do

These would be “believers” behave just like those who have no relationship with Him

2 Timothy 3:5 (GNB)

⁵ they will hold to the outward form of our religion, but reject its real power. Keep away from such people.

- The power they reject is grace's ability to transform us

When we reject the power of God that is able to transform our lives we are deceived and our conduct will not line up with our profession

2 Timothy 3:5 Amplified Bible (AMP)

⁵ holding to a form of [outward] godliness (religion), although they have denied its power [for their conduct nullifies their claim of faith].

2 Timothy 3:7 (NLT)

⁷ (Such women are forever following new teachings, but they are never able to understand the truth.)

- The main problem with deception is its Deceiving!
- We fully believe we are fine with God when we're not
- They love to learn but remain unchanged

The Bottom Line – only those who walk in holiness can see God or enter His presence

John 14:19, 21 (NKJV)

¹⁹ “A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also.

²¹ He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and **manifest** Myself to him.”

The word *manifest* is defined as “to make clear or evident to the eye or the understanding; show plainly.”

The Complete Word Study Dictionary – “to make apparent, cause to be seen, to show” “Of a person...meaning to let oneself be intimately known and understood.”

Jesus was saying that only those who keep His commandments are the ones He will make Himself known to

- The ones who see Him
- The ones who enter His presence
- The ones who come to know Him intimately
- This is a promise to those who pursue holiness
- To manifest doesn't just mean “to see” but also carries what being with Him entails
- He makes Himself known to our minds and senses

He gives insight and knowledge to “His ways”

- This is given to those who have tasted of heavenly gift and become sharers of the Holy Spirit – **Hebrews 6:4 AMP**
- Even though all believers experience His manifest presence those who pursue holiness have a relationship that others don't

Psalm 103:7 (ESV)

⁷ He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.

2 Corinthians 6:17 (NLT) Paul is quoting Moses

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.

2 Corinthians 6:17 (The Message)

So leave the corruption and compromise; leave it for good," says God.

"Don't link up with those who will pollute you. I want you all for myself.

2 Corinthians 7:1 (NLT)

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.

- If we want to live a life that is changing and becoming more like Jesus we need His presence
- To experience His presence, we must pursue or "desire" holiness
- When we experience His presence we live differently
- We have so much more than a powerless religion
- We have the ability to live life in a way that others are set free by the presence of God in our lives

What is true holiness?

Hagios – ‘set apart for God, to be, as it were, exclusively his.’”

Could you imagine if on our wedding night I said to Trish...

- You don't mind if I keep a couple girlfriends on the side do you? – Not for every night, or every week, but just once and a while
- Before we were married I didn't have to inquire of anyone else before I bought a car, a piece of furniture, clothes, etc.
- There isn't room for selfishness in a good marriage
- Now that we are in a relationship with Jesus we should honestly ask ourselves, am I living for me or for Him?

We may be “related” to Jesus but we are lacking intimacy with Him

- Intimacy in marriage is becoming as one
- This comes through pursuing holiness

2 Corinthians 5:15 (NLT)

¹⁵ He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ, who died and was raised for them.

It is possible for us to drift back into a selfish lifestyle after coming to Christ

James 3:14–16; 4:1-4 (ESV)

¹⁴ But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. ¹⁵ This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.

4 What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? ² You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. ⁴ You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore, whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

- When we live our lives selfishly and full of our desires and passions we don't get our prayers answered properly
- They don't get answered because His will is our holiness
- Jesus said to become "childlike" in our faith
- A selfish person is "childish"
- There's a BIG difference

In the Old Testament God's people were told not to sin but they couldn't obey because their nature was sinful

- We have a new nature in Christ
- We are alive on the inside recreated in Jesus!

Ephesians 4:17–19 (NLT)

¹⁷ With the Lord's authority I say this: Live no longer as the Gentiles do, for they are hopelessly confused. ¹⁸ Their minds are full of darkness; they wander far from the life God gives because they have closed their minds and hardened their hearts against him. ¹⁹ They have no sense of shame. They live for lustful pleasure and eagerly practice every kind of impurity.

- The unbeliever is enslaved to the appetites of the flesh
- His spirit is dead – lifeless
- Why are we shocked by the behavior of unbelievers?
- They are just doing what's normal according to their nature
- We can live differently!
- Don't behave like the world – **1 Corinthians 3:3**

Ephesians 4:21–24 (NLT)

²¹ Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, ²² throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. ²³ Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. ²⁴ Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.

- We have a new inward nature – we can live a holy life
- We have the power to yield to our flesh or the Spirit
- Don't confuse position with behavior
- Christ made us His – **Ephesians 1:4**
- When we to live “set apart” we are empowered from above