

SEVEN NEW THINGS FOR THE BELIEVER

By Keith Greer

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." {2 Corinthians 5:17 }

Yes, the one who comes to Christ becomes a new person. Let us discuss seven things that all believers possess after "putting on Christ." Galatians 3:27.

REPENTANCE. " ... testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. "{Acts 20:21} The believer's mind is changed to follow the paths of God instead of their own. A changed mind resulting in changed conduct.

JUSTIFICATION. " ... who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification." {Romans 4:25} We have now been made "right" in the sight of God, free from the burden and guilt of sin which had separated us from God.

"But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear. "{Isaiah 59:2}

REGENERATION. "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, "{Titus 3:5}

We have been given a new lease on life, no longer shackled by the weight of sin and under the bondage of Satan. A new fulfilling life in Christ.

CONVERSION. " ... and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. '" {Matthew 18:3}

One's attitude must change and this change should be evident for all to see. Prayerfully we must submit our life unto Him. As Jesus said in His prayer before the cross, "Not my will but thine be done".

SONSHIP. "Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. " {1 John 3:1}

The Christian enters a new relationship, born spiritually into a new family. We have become children of God. God is our Father. "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. "{Romans 8:14}

SANCTIFICATION. "Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ:" {Jude 1}

As Christians we have a new position before God. We have been sanctified, set apart from the world for a special and wonderful work.

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." {Matthew 5:16}

GLORIFICATION. "Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. "{Romans 8:30}

We have a new place with God, one of highest position that one can ever hope to attain in this life. What glory God has in store for those who remain His faithful and obedient children.

"For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, "{2 Corinthians 4:17}

These "new things" are wonderful blessings we receive as God's children. Just think, these are just the beginning of the spiritual blessings one receives in Christ, Ephesians 1:3. What a wonderful God we serve! ***