

50 POSITIONAL TRUTHS

#21: A New Creation

Biblically, being a child of God is used in a wide sense. It signifies the whole process whereby a person becomes a brand new creation at the point of salvation. As we have seen, this includes not only positional reality, it also includes ontological realities reflected in five biblical terms: born again, made alive, sons of God, a new creation, and regeneration. Christ Himself emphasized the necessity of being born again (John 3:3, 6).

Becoming a new creation is totally a work of grace. There is nothing you can do to make yourself a new creation. No amount of morality has any effect on this miraculous work in renovating a person's soul. The miracle of the illumination and convicting ministry of the Holy Spirit makes the gospel understandable to us *precisely* because we are spiritually dead prior to salvation. Prior to salvation the things of God are foolishness (1 Cor. 2:14). When a person trusts Christ in response to the gospel, he is in fact re-created in his essence. He is totally passive in this process. Again, he cannot actively originate spiritual life. In grace he is only the recipient of the supernatural work in his soul. He does not co-operate in any regenerating activity—a dead man cannot assist in his own resurrection. He believes and God gives him new life—life from God Himself. Furthermore, regeneration is a work of God in the human soul that is below consciousness. You feel the results but not the actual regeneration. There is no internal sensation caused by it. No man was ever conscious of that instantaneous act of the Holy Spirit by which he was made a new creature in Christ Jesus.

In grace God the Holy Spirit implants spiritual life and power into the form/soul of a person who believes in Jesus Christ. This new creation cannot be undone positionally or ontologically. At that moment the believer gains great insight because of the new spiritual capacity. He now has a whole life to grow these capacities to understand God and the spiritual life. If a believer does not use these capacities they will never grow and the believer will not only remain a somewhat clueless baby believer, he will actually lose all interest in Bible doctrine as he loses interest in Christ. The carnal and spiritually blind Corinthians, Laodecians, and Demas were no less a new creation than the supergrace believers Paul and Luke. We are all a new creation made for Truth. Total Truth that is.

One of the most wonderful things for a pastor to see is believers using those capacities for interest in learning about *Esse* – the greatest concept in the Bible. How unfortunate that such a truth can be so dead to so many Christians though they are in fact alive both positionally and ontologically.

Positional truth #21: A New Creation

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

Galatians 6:15 For neither is circumcision anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Loving those grace given spiritual capacities to grasp the Esse,

Pastor Don