

GOD IS MAKING ALL NEW THINGS

Westend Bible Chapel
Aug.5'2012
(re-worked & preached May 30'2021)

Elio Di Ciocco

There is something about new things that gives one a lift: new clothing, new scenery, new friends, new cars etc. The “newness” theme is reflected throughout Scripture.

God’s Word tells us in Rev. [21:5](#), ***“And He who sits on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.”***”

We want to look at, this morning, at some of these new things God is making.

In my understanding the text read suggests that God is making everything new from existing things, by transforming them. Be convinced of this truth, that God began making all things new, when sin entered the world through Adam and Eve.

Man’s relationship with His creator was severely severed, and without a moment of hesitation God began the work of restoring the broken relationship. We all know how He commanded the Israelites, through Moses, to set a sacrificial system of worship, in which they could approach Him adequately. That was all part of the Mosaic Covenant which God made with his people in the former dispensation.

The old covenant that God had established with His people required obedience to the Old Testament Mosaic law. Because the wages of sin is death ([Rom. 6:23](#)), the law required that people with faith , perform rituals and animal sacrifices in order to please God and remain in His grace.

But the old covenant was powerless to save. It remembered sins, it did not forget sins. It could only cover sins, it could not remove them. Sinners weren't actually set free from the law. But forgiveness was accredited to them .

The law was temporal; it had a fixed life span. It only prepared the way for a new , a better and eternal covenant to replace it.

A New Covenant

The prophet Jeremiah was the 1st to predict that there would be a time when God would make a new covenant with the nation of Israel. **"The day will come,' says the Lord, 'when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah. . . I will put my law in their minds, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people'"** ([Jer. 31:31, 33](#)).

Jesus Christ came to fulfill the law of Moses ([Matt. 5:17](#)) and generate and ratify a new covenant.

The old covenant was written in stone, but the new covenant is written on our hearts, made possible only by faith in Christ, who shed His own blood to atone for the sins of the world.

[Heb. 9:15](#) declares, **"Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that He has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant."**

Everyone is now given the opportunity to receive salvation as a free gift ([Eph.2:8-9](#)). We can, by faith, now share in the inheritance of Christ and enjoy a permanent, unbroken relationship with God.

This free salvation in Christ consists of a new birth.

A New Birth

[John3:3](#) Jesus said to Nicodemus, **"Verily, Verily, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."**

The new birth also known as “regeneration” is the sovereign act of God, whereby He imparts His very life and His very nature to the believing sinner ([John 1:12-13](#); [Tit. 3:5](#)).

- Man’s first birth is from below, his second is from above.
- Man’s first birth is physical and natural; his second birth is spiritual and supernatural.
- Man’s first birth makes him a member of a fallen race; his second birth makes him a member of a redeemed race.
- Man’s first birth gives him a depraved nature ([Eph. 2:3](#)); his second birth makes him partaker of the divine nature ([2 Pet. 1:4](#)).
- Man’s first birth is through a woman; his second birth is through Jesus Christ in God.

The new birth is the first need of every man. Without it there is no salvation, no hope for heaven. It's impossible to be saved and not be “born again” or “regenerated.” Vice versa, it's impossible to be “born again” or “regenerated” and not be saved.

It is ridiculousness to suggest that a person is a believer in Christ, before he is saved and regenerated. Faith and regeneration take place simultaneously. They both take place at the same instant of time. One is the response of a lost, sinful man to the gospel; the other is the supernatural work of God.

Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God ([1 John 5: 1](#)). As many as received Him, he gave them the power to become the sons of God ([John 1:11-12](#)).

The born-again person, in the biblical sense, is a brand “new man”, with a new position as a child of God ([John 1:12](#); [1 John 3:1-2](#)). His new birth consists of a life with a new heart and a new spirit ([Ezek. 36:26](#).)” In short, through personal faith, alone in the Savior, a sinner experiences a spiritual and moral newness. He is made a new creation in Christ ([2 Cor. 5:17](#)).

The new creation is described in [2 Cor.5:17](#): **“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”**

The late Baptist preacher Adrian Rogers would say, *“Nature forms us. Sin deforms us. Schools inform us. Prisons reform us. But only Christ transforms us.*

In Christ we become new. A Christian is not just somebody who's become nice, he becomes new. He doesn't just turn over a new leaf. He receives a new life."

"Old things have passed away." The "old" refers to everything that is part of our old nature—natural pride, love of sin, reliance on works, and our former opinions, habits and passions.

Along with the old passing away, **"the new has come!"** Out with the old, in with the new! Old, dead things are replaced with new things, full of life and the glory of God.

The newborn soul delights in the things of God and abhors the things of the world and the flesh. Our purposes, feelings, desires, and understandings are fresh and different. We see the world differently.

The Bible seems to be a new book, and though we may have read it before, there is a beauty about it which we never saw before, and which we wonder at not having perceived.

1 Peter 2:2 Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation—

The whole face of nature seems to us to be changed, and we seem to be in a completely different world. Suddenly, the heavens and the earth around are filled with new wonders, and all things seem now to speak forth the praise of God.

There are new feelings toward all people—a new kind of love toward family and friends, a new compassion never before felt for enemies, and a new love for all mankind. The things we once loved, we now detest.

Having become new creations, the sin we once held onto, we now desire to put away forever.

A New Song

Ps. 40:3 He has put a new song in my mouth— a hymn of praise to our God.

There was no singing on the psalmist lips before he was delivered, established, and assured. And even then, we notice that the New Song was divinely inspired. “He...” God places a new song on the lips of the newborn baby.

The Bible is a book of singing, of songs. Solomon composed 1005 songs ([1 Kings 4: 32](#)). In the Temple worship many Levites were set apart for nothing else but for singing the Lord’s praises.

Singing is always the work of happy and thankful hearts. We need to put our heart, soul and strength in our singing. We need freshness of worship every time we meet. For the mercies of God are new every day. There is great benefit in singing and praising our Savior. It bolsters our faith.

It is a remarkable fact, most of the singing in the Bible is in connection with Redemption.

The elders before the throne in [Rev.5:9](#),^{And} they sang a new song, saying:

*“You are worthy to take the scroll,
And to open its seals;
For You were slain,
And have redeemed us to God by Your blood
Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,
¹⁰ And have made us^[a] kings^[b] and priests to our God;
And we^[c] shall reign on the earth.”*

The new song of Revelation 5 praises the Lamb for his worthiness to carry out God's redemptive plan.

The lesson is simple: there can be no true joy and happiness apart from God and His wonderful salvation.

*I sing because I'm happy,
I sing because I'm free.*

A New Name

In the Bible we often find that when God changed a person’s name and gave him a new name, it was usually to establish a new identity, grounded in a new

and restored relationship with God. God changed Abram's "high father" name to "Abraham," "father of a multitude" ([Gen. 17:5](#)) and his wife's name from "Sarai," "my princess," to "Sarah," "mother of nations" ([Gen. 17:15](#)). We know from history that the descendants of Abraham and Sarah formed many nations, including the Jews' and Muslims'.

God changed Jacob's "supplanter" name to "Israel," "having power with God" ([Gen.32:28](#)). He changed Simon's "God has heard" name to "Peter," "rock" ([John 1:42](#)).

The Bible doesn't give us His reasons, why God choose to reveal name changes for some people in Scripture. But perhaps it was to let them know they were destined for a new mission in life. The new name was a way to let them in on the divine plan and also to assure them that God's plan would be fulfilled in them.

Jesus told those in the Church of Pergamum,

"To the one who is victorious, I will give that person a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it" ([Rev. 2:17](#)).

According to this verse , Jesus Himself gives everyone who is an overcomer by faith a new name. It is written on a white stone. We really don't know what the white stone means. However, if, "it is written "is meant to parallel the stones on the high priest's breastplate, it is "engraved"— therefore it cannot be erased. Our new name, our new identity, our new relationship with God, endures forever.

The written name indicates character and ownership ([Num. 6:27](#); [John 1:12](#)). Believers will be owned by God and molded according to His character. They are "sons of God" ([Mat. 5:9](#)).

Jesus, then told those in Philadelphia,

"He who overcomes, I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name ([Rev.3:12](#))."

Here the overcome, is said to be given 3 names. 1) The name of God 2) God's City 3) God's Son

It is difficult to understand how it will be carried out by God.

In last days Satan will give a number—666, representing his identity. While Satan gives a number, Christ gives a name. With Satan people will be marked and numbered targets; with God His people will be sealed and untouchable sons.

What the new name or names given the believers will be , we can't know now , but one thing is for sure, they will denote an aspect of the character of Jesus which is yet unrevealed ([Rev. 3:12+](#); [Rev. 19:12+](#)) .

Even Jesus has been given a new name, which no one knows, but Himself.

[Rev.19:11-15](#)-**Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had^{lel} a name written that no one knew except Himself.**

*There's a new name written down in glory,
And its mine, O yes, it's mine!*

A New Community

The arrival of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost brought a renewed strength and power to the little band of Jesus' disciples, enabling Peter to speak with new boldness, enabling Paul, a staunch persecutor of the followers of Jesus to be converted, and enabling the apostles to go out and form little communities all around the Mediterranean.

Pentecost was not an individual experience; it was a communal event. It brought the band of Jesus' followers together in a new way, solidified their commitment to one another and to their mission.

Read [Acts 2:44-47](#)- **"All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple**

courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. "

In this picture, we see that the Spirit inspired those who had wealth to share with those who had needs, so they "had everything in common." We see the Spirit bringing them together to share meals with gratefulness and humility. We see a people whose spirit of generosity and joy inspired those around them to join them.

A New Home

Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also [John 14:1-3 \(NASB\)](#).

[Rev. 21:1, 2](#), "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away. And I, John saw the holy city, the New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of Heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband."

"The Holy City, the new Jerusalem" will be our eternal dwelling place. The apostle John describes this amazing place with powerful imagery. There will be **"the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb"** (22:1). Water represents life and abundance, and its source will be the eternal God Himself. John says that "no longer will there be any curse" (v. 3). The beautiful, pure relationship God intended between Himself and humans will be fully restored.

How incredible to know that God, who loves His children and purchased us with the life of His Son, is preparing such an amazing new home—where He Himself will live with us and be our God (21:3). 2535