

# Real Change

## Part 11

Know no one after the flesh

2 Corinthians 5: 16

# Walk: how we live our life (*2 ways*)

we walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God ***Rom. 8: 4-7***

# Flesh and Spirit are opposed

walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. Gal. 5: 16

As you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him Colossians 2: 6

I'm walking in the Spirit because I'm  
not doing any overtly bad things

We equate walking in the flesh as walking in  
obvious sin

The flesh can be what we think of as evil (think  
of works of the flesh in Galatians 5)

The flesh can also seem good (wise, noble,  
powerful in Corinthians; Paul in Philippians)

The flesh is how we think, conduct our lives,  
have confidence on our own, without God

We have desires that are meant to be fulfilled in relationship with God

The flesh is how we get our desires for food, intimacy (relationships and sex), work, dominion satisfied outside of God

We can be a Christian and walk in the flesh, we are oblivious that we are

Our flesh is so right, comfortable, natural, our default position and uniquely ours

Jesus is our example of how to live in the Spirit and not live in the flesh

He emptied himself of the independent exercise of His divine nature (Philippians 2)

He spoke the Father's words, and did the Father's acts (John 5, 8)

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2: 20

## 2 Corinthians 5: 16 – 17, 21

From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.....

....For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God

## 2 Corinthians 5: 16

From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer.

Regard: to see; to know

To pay attention to

# The flesh is a way to live and interpret

We evaluate others by our flesh

We are actually evaluating their flesh

*“from now on, we know no one according to the flesh”*

We must know who we are, and that tells us who others are

# Who we are

1. New creations (2 Corinthians 5: 21)
2. Righteous (Philippians 3: 9)
3. Holy (Ephesians 4: 22)
4. Adopted sons and daughters (Galatians 3)
5. Heirs (Galatians 3)

# Actual or positional

We regard ourselves as actual adopted sons and daughters, but sometimes when it comes to holy and righteous, we say that it is how God sees us, not as we actually are

What we believe ourselves to be is important in how we deal with sin in our lives

# We are forgiven

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. Colossians 2: 13, 14

Having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him (2: 12)

# Hebrews 10: 1 -3

For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year.

# Hebrews 10: 11, 12, 14

And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God....

For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

# Hebrews 10: 17, 18

“I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.” Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

# forgiven

Cleansed vs covered

No longer any consciousness of sin

Perfect for all time

Sacrifice completed, Jesus sat down

God will remember their sins no more

Where there is forgiveness, no further offering

# Accepted - Ephesians 1: 6

To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein  
he has made us accepted in the beloved

Accepted: same word in Luke 1: 28

Highly favoured

What do we have to do to be accepted?

What is the basis of our acceptance?

Performance based acceptance

# Accept one another

Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ  
also accepted us to the glory of God

Romans 15: 7

Welcome

# Accepted

What would it mean to our spouses, children if they believed they were accepted by us?

How about highly favoured?

## 2 Corinthians 5: 16

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# We are:

1. New creations (2 Corinthians 5: 21)
2. Righteous (Philippians 3: 9)
3. Holy (Ephesians 4: 24)
4. Adopted sons and daughters (Galatians 3)
5. Heirs (Galatians 3, 4)
6. Forgiven (Hebrews 10: 18)
7. Accepted (Ephesians 1: 6)

# C.S. Lewis: *The Weight of Glory*

It is a serious thing to live in a society of possible gods and goddesses, to remember that the dullest most uninteresting person you can talk to may one day be a creature which, if you saw it now, you would be strongly tempted to worship.....

.....There are no ordinary people. You have never talked to a mere mortal.











