

# The New Life!

## Introduction

### Colossians 3:1-4

1. A man became a Christian at the age of 45 and at age 46, he delighted to say that he was 1 year old!
2. There are some Christians who fail to understand that becoming a Christian is the beginning of a new life.
3. When Paul wrote to the church at Colossae, he had a lot to say about the "new man" and his conduct.
4. In this lesson, we will be asking the question: what is the new man, and why is he to live a new life?

## The Reality of the New Life

1. **Those who are Christians have been "raised with Christ" (Colossians 3:1).**
2. **Baptism is a representation of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ - Colossians 2:12.**

Colossians 2:12-13 buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,

- A. **When the water closes over a person, he is "buried" with Christ, and when he comes up from the water, he is "raised" with Christ.**

Romans 6:3-4 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

3. **The person who has been baptized into Christ enjoys a "newness of life."**

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

Ephesians 2:1 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, (5) even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), (6) and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

## The Responsibilities of the New Life

### 1. We have new goals.

**Colossians 3:1**

**A. The Christian is to "seek those things which are above."**

**B. Before, our highest ambitions were earthly – now, they are heavenly**

**Matthew 6:33**

Romans 2:6-7 who "WILL RENDER TO EACH ONE ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS": eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality;

### 2. We have new thoughts

**Colossians 3:2**

**A. The Christian's thoughts are to dwell on spiritual concerns.**

**Matthew 6:19-21**

2 Corinthians 4:17-18 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

### 3. We have new habits

#### Colossians 3:5-16

A. **The Christian is to get rid of certain things:** "Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth" (3:5).

- 1) **3:5 - fornication** (immorality, sexual sin).
- 2) **3:5 - uncleanness** (impurity, dirty-mindedness).
- 3) **3:5 - passion** (inordinate affection, lust).
- 4) **3:5 - evil desire** (evil concupiscence, foul cravings).
- 5) **3:5 - covetousness/idolatry** (greed).
- 6) **3:8 - anger** (long-nourished anger).
- 7) **3:8 - wrath** (rage, the blaze of temper).
- 8) **3:8 - malice** (ill-will, spitefulness).
- 9) **3:8 - blasphemy** (slander, insults).
- 10) **3:8 - filthy language** (abusive speech, foul-mouths).
- 11) **3:9 - lying.**

B. **The Christian is to obtain certain other things.**

- 1) **3:12 - tender mercies** (tenderness of heart, tender affections of compassion).
- 2) **3:12 - kindness** (graciousness, generosity).
- 3) **3:12 - humbleness of mind** (lowliness, modesty).
- 4) **3:12 - meekness** (gentleness, considerateness).
- 5) **3:12 - longsuffering** (patience, endurance).

C. **The Christian is to conduct themselves properly toward fellow Christians.**

- 1) **3:13 - forbearance and forgiveness.**
- 2) **3:14 - love.** This is the characteristic that binds all the others together in harmony.
- 3) **3:15 - peace.** Christ is to be our "arbiter."
- 4) **3:16 - mutual teaching and admonition in song.** Christ is to richly dwell within us.

**4. The new authority is to be respected****Colossians 3:17**

- A. All is to be done "in the name of the Lord Jesus."**
- B. Before, we may have served our own self-will – now, the new Christian serves the Lord alone.**

1 Peter 3:15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

**Reasons for the New Life****1. The Christian is to live a new life because we possess a new hope.****Colossians 3:3-4**

- A. The Christian has "died" with Christ and has been raised with Him to a new life. (v.3)**

Colossians 2:12 buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

- B. The Christian's new life is "hidden with Christ in God" (v.3).**
- C. The Christian has a new hope: "When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory" (v.4).**

1 Peter 5:4 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

**2. The hope of eternal life affects our life here and now for several reasons.**

**1 Peter 1:3**

**A. Hope causes a person to love the Lord.**

**1 Peter 1:8**

1 John 2:28 And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.

**B. Hope causes a person to want to be like God.**

**1 Peter 1:13-15**

1 John 3:2-3 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

**C. Hope causes a person to be careful not to lose their hope.**

**1 Peter 1:17**

**2 Peter 1:10-11**

**Colossians 3:5-6**

**D. Hope causes a person to be thankful for the sacrifice that made it possible.**

**1 Peter 1:18-19**

Philippians 3:18-21 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things. For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

## Conclusion

1. **The hope of eternal life means that the Christian must daily "put off" the old man and "put on" the new. (Colossians 3:9-10)**
2. **The Christian:**
  - A. **Has been "raised with Christ" (v.1).**
  - B. **Is one whose "life is hidden with Christ in God" (v.3).**
  - C. **Hopes to "appear with Him in glory" (v.4).**
3. **Knowing what is ahead makes a great difference in our conduct here and now**  
**2 Peter 3:8-13**

1 Thessalonians 5:8-11 But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation. For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him. Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

4. **Let us try our best to make our lives consistent with these facts.**
  - A. **Let us live like people who have the hope of heaven!**

