

A Few New Things

Introduction

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

1. **Generally speaking, the “new” things in religion are not true and the true things are not new.**
 - A. **However the Bible does speak of many new things.**
 - B. **Let us look at a few of these new things.**

A New Covenant

1. **God promised to make a new covenant hundreds of years before the New Testament was given.**

Jeremiah 31:31 "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when **I will make a new covenant** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—

- A. **These words are echoed by the Hebrew writer.**

Hebrews 8:8 Because finding fault with them, He says: "BEHOLD, THE DAYS ARE COMING, SAYS THE LORD, WHEN **I WILL MAKE A NEW COVENANT** WITH THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AND WITH THE HOUSE OF JUDAH—

2. Why a new covenant?

A. That is answered in Hebrews.

Hebrews 8:7 For if that first covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second.

Hebrews 10:1 For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, **can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect.**

- 1) The old law simply would not do. God knew that and promised that a new law would come.**

- 3. God sent His Son to die for us - the ultimate sacrifice. Upon His death, burial, resurrection, and ascension the new covenant was given to man. This began on Pentecost.**

A New Creature

- 1. We enter the benefits of this new covenant by a new birth.**

A. Christians are those that have been born twice.

- 1) We were born into our earthly family by a fleshly birth.**
- 2) To enter the Lord's family we must have a spiritual birth.**

- b. Jesus said:
John 3:3-5**

2. In the fleshly birth there is first a begetting and then a bringing forth. So it is with the spiritual birth.

A. We are begotten by the word of truth, and then brought forth from the waters of baptism.

B. Peter expressed it this way:

1 Peter 1:23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, **through the word of God** which lives and abides forever,

C. James said:

James 1:18 Of His own will He **brought us forth by the word of truth**, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

D. Paul wrote:

1 Corinthians 4:15 For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have **begotten you through the gospel**.

3. When one is born again, he is therefore a new creature.

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.

Romans 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, **who do not walk according to the flesh**, but according to the Spirit.

4. We should be able to see that when we enter the benefits of the new covenant by a new birth, we should "put on" new clothing!

Romans 13:14

A New Diet

1. **A new creature requires a new diet. The diet that the old man feasted on will not do. Peter said:**

1 Peter 2:1-2

- A. **The sincere milk of the word will cause such rapid growth that it will not be long until we can handle the meat of the word.**

- 1) **However some never make this desired growth.**

Hebrews 5:12-14

- B. **It is no disgrace to be on a milk diet when we are babes, but it is a disgrace to remain on one.**

- C. **The only time a full-grown man needs to be reduced to milk or a liquid diet is when he is sick or has a medical condition.**

- 1) **Jesus said:**

Matthew 4:4 But He answered and said, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE, BUT BY EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS FROM THE MOUTH OF GOD.' "

A New Name

1. **The new creature in Christ has a new name awaiting for them as soon as one is born into the family of Christ.**
 - A. **This is a family name belonging exclusively to the family of Christ.**
 - B. **We proudly wear the name of the head of the family.**
 - 1) **We know that the earthly father is the head of the family and children born into his family take his name.**
 - C. **And so it is also true with the family of Christ.**
 - 1) **Since Christ is the head, every one that is born into this family takes His name.**
2. **Hundreds of years before there was a Christian on the earth God said this through the prophet Isaiah:**

Isaiah 62:2 The Gentiles shall see your righteousness, And all kings your glory. **You shall be called by a new name**, Which the mouth of the LORD will name.

- A. **God was going to give this new name when the Gentiles saw his righteousness. As soon as the church had gentile members, this new name was given!**
- B. **Cornelius was the first gentile convert. You can read of his conversion in Acts 10.**
- C. **In the very next chapter we have this significant statement:**
Acts 11:26

3. After Paul had preached to King Agrippa, the king said:

Acts 26:28 Then Agrippa said to Paul, "You almost persuade me to become a Christian."

- A. The king knew that if he became obedient to the gospel that Paul preached, he would be a Christian.**
- B. The same applies today. The gospel of Christ (Just the Bible) preached and obeyed makes one a Christian.**

A New Employment

1. This new creature enjoying the blessings of the new covenant, wearing new clothing, eating new food, and wearing a new name is now ready for new employment!

- A. He or she is now ready to work in the Lord's vineyard.**
- B. Their salvation must be worked out with fear and trembling.**

Philippians 2:12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;**

2. The Christian cannot forget to remain steadfast in their work.

1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

- A. Jesus said:**
John 9:4

3. Faithful Christians are faithful because they are looking forward to a new heaven and earth.

2 Peter 3:13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, **look for new heavens and a new earth** in which righteousness dwells.

A. We know that this old earth will pass away just as our old self should have passed away to sin, and now we live anew, longing for the new!

Revelation 21:1

Conclusion

1. Although these Bible truths are not new, we need to develop our lives to live in the NEW!

A. Let us:

- 1) Be a new creature!**
- 2) Put off the old and put on the New clothing of righteousness!**
- 3) Partake of the new milk and then meat of God's word!**
- 4) Wear the new name Christian proudly - serving our Lord each day we live!**
- 5) Be a faithful Christian working diligently in the Lord's vineyard longing for the day we can join our Lord in the new Jerusalem!**

2. Are you ready to trade in that old self for a new beginning?

3. God is waiting to help make you new - won't you come and become his NEW CREATURE - HIS NEW CHILD!

Matthew 11:28-30

Place

Date[illegible]

Richard Thetford, October 1994 – Reworked January 2026