sin, the old things pass away. The new creation begins NOW but will not be fully revealed until the Second Coming of Christ. The good news is that the "new" has already come. All who are united with Christ by faith enter immediately into the new creation at spiritual birth. But what does it mean to be "in Christ" and to be a "new creation"? As new creations, what are our rights and privileges? As believers, what we confess with our mouths should agree with what God has to say about us in His word. A good confession of a new creation gives confidence and strength. What the Scripture says in Mark 11:23-24 can be claimed in the life of every believer who places into practice these words of Jesus:

*"Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'be taken*

*up and cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it shall be granted him. Therefore, I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they shall be granted you. "*

Notice that in Mark 11:24, the two prerequisites for answered prayer are: 1) pray and ask, and 2) believe that you have already received that for which you prayed. A POSITIVE faith confession releases God to grant you your prayer request. The positive confession of a new creation releases the power of God into every circumstance. Mark 11:23-24 be­comes reality when the believer speaks the words in faith and belief with­out doubt. Hebrews 10:23 admonishes us to “… hold fast the con­fession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.”

Confession is two sides of the same coin. Yes, we must confess our sins (Proverbs 28:13, I John 1:9), but by the same token we should confess our righteousness. In II Corinthians 5:21, we discover that we are the righteousness of God in Christ.

*"He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that*

*we might become the righteousness of God in Him. "*

Christians often spend more prayer time confessing their sins than con­fessing who they are in Christ. Sin in the life of a believer is simply forgetting who they are in Christ.

*"For he who lacks these qualities is blind or short-sighted, having forgotten his purification from his former sins."*

(II Peter 1:9)

Many Christians have a sin-consciousness with no awareness of the need for a righteous-consciousness. Through Christ's death, burial, and resurrection, we have been made His workmanship (Ephesians 2:10), a chosen race, royal priests, a holy nation (I Peter 2:9), holy and blameless (Ephesians 1:4), saints (Romans 1:7), salt (Matthew 5:13), light Matthew 5:14), the righteousness of God (II Corinthians 5:21), and new creations (II Corinthians 5:17). These are only a few of the hundreds of

Scriptures which describe the person who has become a new creation in Christ Jesus. As a new creation, everything you ever wanted to be-you are! Everything you ever wanted to have-you have! Colossians 2:9-10 tells us we are complete.

*“For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form, and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority.”*

II Peter 1:3 tells us we have everything.

*"Seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.”*

The Christian who begins to discover what it really means to be a new creation will find fresh strength and power to resist the devil and new joy and excitement in exercising all the throne rights available as a son of God. The Word of God clearly describes who we are in Christ. The fol­lowing confessions of a new creation can alter your entire Christian life. Begin receiving what the Scripture has to say about you and applying it in your daily walk and daily prayer life. Using the little formula,

"IT IS WRITTEN, MY HEAVENLY-FATHER SAYS …"

let's walk through the Word and discover some of the Scriptures which describe who you are in Christ. YOU ARE A NEW CREATION! Too often in the Christian life we pre-occupy our thinking with our fail­ures, short-comings, and faults rather than celebrating who we are in Christ. We forget our heritage. We live below our Sonship. The Bible very specifically tells the believer who he is.

USING YOUR BIBLE, read the following scriptures and find out what your Heavenly Father has to say about you. Read each passage and with your mouth make a New Creation confession.

BEGIN CONFESSING WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST!

SCRIPTURE

"IT IS WRITTEN,

MY HEAVENLY FATHER SAYS..."

. Matthew 5:13

Matthew 5:14

· Mark 11:23-24 · Luke 11:9-10

I am the salt of the earth.

I am the light of the world.

What I say in faith without doubt, I get.

I ask and receive; I seek and find; I knock and the

door is opened unto me.

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