

**Transformation**  
**[2 Corinthians 5:17](#)**

What comes to mind when you hear the word transformation? The word “**therefore**” refers us back to [verses 14-16](#).

Our lives are no longer worldly; they are now spiritual. [1 Corinthians 6:20](#), [Galatians 5:16-18](#)

The Greek word translated “**transformed**” is metamorphoo. This is the word from which the English word “metamorphosis” is derived.

This word refers to an inward change brought about completely apart from the power of the individual himself or herself.

**Biblical transformation**, then, applies to an individual believer’s progress in [sanctification](#).

The word [sanctification](#) is related to the word [saint](#); both words have to do with **holiness**. To “**sanctify**” something is to set it apart for special use; to “**sanctify**” a person is to make him holy. [dedicated](#) or [consecrated](#) unto God.

To understand the new creation, first we must grasp that it is in fact a creation, something created by God [Genesis 1:1](#), [John 1:1-4](#)

Our “death” is of the old [sin nature](#) which was nailed to the cross with Christ. [Romans 6:4](#)

We did not inherit the new nature from our parents or decide to re-create ourselves the new creation is completely new, brought about from nothing, [John 14:6](#)

**Second**, “old things have passed away.” The “old” refers to everything that is part of our old nature—natural pride, love of sin.

The new creature looks outwardly toward Christ instead of inwardly toward self-righteousness, self-promotion, and self-justification.

The newborn soul delights in the things of God and abhors the things of the world and the flesh. [Romans 12:2](#), [Colossians 3:9](#)

**Question:** what are some of the things that you would say that has change in your life since becoming a new creation in Christ?

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. [Ephesians 4:24](#)

What about the Christian who continues to sin? There is a difference between continuing to sin and continuing to live in sin. No one reaches [sinless perfection](#) in this life, but the redeemed Christian is being sanctified (made holy) day by day, sinning less and hating it more each time he fails.

The difference is that the [new creation](#) is we are no longer a *slave* to sin, as we formerly were. ([Romans 6:6-7](#))

We now have the choice to “let sin reign” or to count ourselves “dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus” [Romans 6:11-12](#).