

**“Change”**  
**2 Corinthians 5:17**

**QUESTION:** where of some of the areas would you say your life has changed for the better as a Christian?

The word “therefore” refers us back to [verses 14-16](#) where Paul tells us that all believers have died with Christ and no longer live for themselves. the old has gone, the new has come!”

Our lives should no longer worldly; they are now spiritual. Our “death” is that of the old sin nature which was nailed to the cross with Christ. It was buried with Him, and just as He was raised up by the Father. ([Romans 6:4](#)).

To understand the new creation, first we must grasp that it is in fact a creation, something created by God, brought about by the will of God Himself. [John 1:13](#), [Ephesians 2:8-10](#)

[Something to think about; Ephesians 5:8-17, Psalm 27:4](#)

We did not inherit the new nature or decide to re-create ourselves. Neither did God simply clean up our old nature; He created something entirely fresh and unique. [1 Peter 2:9-17](#)

**Second**, “old things have passed away.” The “old” refers to everything that is part of our old nature—natural pride, love of sin, reliance on works, and our former opinions, habits, and passions.

Especially the supreme love of self and with-it self-righteousness, self-promotion, and self-justification. [Luke 5:32](#)

There are new feelings toward all people—a new kind of love toward family and friends, a new compassion never felt for enemies, and a new love for all mankind. [Mark 12:31](#), [Matthew 7:12](#), [Luke 6:28](#), [Romans 12:14-21](#), [Hebrews 12:14](#).

The sin we once held onto, we now desire to put away forever. We “put off the old man with his deeds” [Colossians 3:9](#), [Psalm 51:10-12](#)

What about the Christian who continues to sin? There is a difference between continuing to sin and continuing to live in sin. [1 John 1:10](#),

Not caring that you are deliberately disobeying the creator of YOUR life and the earth you live on is considered living in sin. [Titus 2:11-12](#), [1 Corinthians 10:13](#)

The believer walks in the light, not in the darkness [1 John 1:6 -8](#)

The believer admits and confesses his sin [1 John 1:8](#).

The believer obeys God’s Word [1 John 2:3–5](#).

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.

Our new self hates the sin that still has a hold on us. The difference is that the new creation is no longer a *slave* to sin, as we formerly were. We are now freed from sin and it no longer has power over us [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](#).