

# Two Natures

**John 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh;  
and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.**

The flesh will always be flesh.  
The Spirit will always be Spirit.  
These two will never mix.  
They are distinct and separate creatures.

**So dear, so very dear to God,  
Dearer we cannot be;  
For in the Person of His Son  
We are as dear as He.**

**Anon**

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## Forward

**Eph 4:22** That ye **put off** concerning the former conversation **the old man**, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; 23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; 24 And that ye **put on the new man**, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

**Col 3:8** But now ye also **put off** all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. 9. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have **put off the old man** with his deeds; 10. And have **put on the new man**, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

We are instructed in the Bible to “put off the old man” and “put on the new man”. Certainly there is no victory in Christian living until we accomplish this task. This act is placed in the responsibility of the believer. We are to put off the old man and put on the new man as instructed by God’s Word.

I was overwhelmed when I asked pastors, “How do we put off the old man and put on the new man,” and they could not answer me Biblically. In almost every instance the answer was some program to veneer the old man. I began to see that most church programs were directed at overhauling the first Adam, not putting on the Last Adam.

There is no educational or religious system that can save a man’s soul. It must be that a man is “born again” as directed by Jesus Christ in John chapter three. Salvation is in Christ Jesus alone. He must be received within the heart in faith. Salvation takes place when we believe “on” Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit regenerates the spirit within the heart. He gives a genuine spiritual birth.

The first step in putting off the old man and putting on the new man is distinguishing and defining the difference between them. We must identify The “old man” and the “new man”. This can only be accomplished by the Word of God and the Holy Spirit.

Before entering this material I would suggest a thorough reading of Romans chapters three through eight. Romans chapters six through eight will help us to identify the flesh and Spirit within us.

*Forrest D. Delaney*

## Introduction

Peace and love are experienced by the believer at salvation. The joy of the Lord moves into the heart and mind of the new born child of God. There is a clean inner peace demonstrating that God has done the work that is need for everlasting life.

Romans 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

There is a gentle loving Spirit within the Soul of the child of God. The greatest gift to man is the gift of Christ. This is by the promised gift of the Holy Ghost given by Jesus Christ.

John 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

Ac 13:52 And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.

Sin blinds man that he cannot see and understand the truth of the Grace of God. The witness of the Holy Ghost gives entrance of light for man to see and be saved. Without His conviction, man would never know that he is a lost sinner separated from the True and Living God. The foolishness of preaching is that means by which God convicts and saves lost souls of men

1 Corinthians 1:18 For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

1 Corinthians 2:4 And my speech and my preaching *was* not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

Titus 1:3 But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour;

**John 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh;  
and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.**

## THE OLD NATURE: DEFINING ITS NAMES AND CHARACTERISTICS.

1.) **The Flesh;** John 3:6. "That which is born of the **flesh is flesh.**"

Romans 8:8 So then they that are in the **flesh cannot please God.**

**John 6:63** It is the spirit that quickeneth; **the flesh profiteth nothing:** the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

Romans 7:18 For I know **that in me** (that is, in my flesh,) **dwelleth no good thing:** for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

**Worship must originate in the Spirit. We cannot worship by our senses.**

- Noses: Smell
- Taste
- Feel
- Emotions: singing, praises ect.
- Numbers of people. Extravaganza.

Alas! The flesh profiteth nothing!

2.) **"The Natural Man." 1 Corinthians 2:14** But the natural man **receiveth not** the things of the Spirit of God: for they are **foolishness** unto him: **neither can he know them,** because they are spiritually discerned.

Ephesians 3:9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been **hid in God,** who created all things by Jesus Christ:

**1 Corinthians 2:10** But **God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit:** for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

- 3.) **"The Old Man." Ephesians 4:22** That ye **put off** concerning the former conversation **the old man**, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;
- 4.) **"The Outward Man." 2 Corinthians 4:16** For which cause we faint not; but though **our outward man perish**, yet the **inward man is renewed day by day.**
- 5.) **"The Heart" i.e., the natural heart."** Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

Matthew 15:19 For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:

The churches may talk about **"a change of heart"**, but there is no hope for a lost heart. It must be "new" by the new birth. "Ye must be born again." (2Co 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.)

- 6.) **"The Carnal Mind." Romans 8:7** Because the carnal mind is **enmity** against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, **neither indeed can be.**

Genesis 6:5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and **that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.**

Isaiah 55:8 For my **thoughts** are not your **thoughts**, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

Romans 8:7-8 **Because the carnal mind is enmity against God:** for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. **8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.**

- 7.) **"Sin"**. This brings us to the last of the names given to the old nature in Scripture, **"Sin"**. We must distinguish between "sin", and "sins". **"Sin" is the root.** **Romans 5:12** Wherefore, as by one man **sin** entered into the world, and **death by sin**; and so death passed upon all men, **for that all have sinned:**

**Sins are the proof of Sin in man.**

## **THE OLD NATURE: DEFINING ITS CHARACTER AND END.**

- 1.) It Cannot Be Changed.** "That which is born (or, begotten) of the flesh is flesh", and remains flesh.
- a. Know this that no power can turn it into spirit. It is dead spiritually and dying physically.
  - b. Men are never weary in their efforts to improve the old nature. Education, nor religion can change it. Ephesians 2:3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.
  - c. Know that the nature of the old man cannot be changed.

**2.) Its End Is Death.**

**1 Corinthians 15:22** For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

**Romans 7:24** O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

**Romans 7:25** I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

- 3.) The third fact flows from the second: Gal. 6:8 "He That Soweth To His Flesh Shall Of The Flesh Reap Corruption"**

## **THE NEW NATURE: DEFINING ITS NAMES AND CHARACTERISTICS**

- 1.) It is called "Spirit".
- 2.) Hence this new nature, being divine in its origin, is called *theia phusis*, **Divine Nature**.
  - a. 2 Peter 1:4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the **divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.
  - b. **1 John 3:9 Whosoever is born of God** doth not commit sin; for **his seed** remaineth in him: and **he** cannot sin, because **he is born of God**.
- 3.) **The "New Man."** This is in contrast with "the old man", which, as we have seen, is one of the titles of the old nature.
  - a. **Ephesians 4:24 And that ye put on the new man**, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.
  - b. Colossians 3:10 And **have put on the new man**, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:
- 4.) **"The Inward Man."** This is contrast with "the outward man" which perishes day by day, while this "inward man is renewed day by day".

**Romans 7:22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:**

2 Corinthians 4:16 For which cause we faint not; but though **our outward man perish**, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.

**Ephesians 3:16** That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his **Spirit in the inner man;**
- 5.) **The Mind.** The word here used for "the mind" is *nous* and denotes the new nature, as it does also in chapter 7:23, 25. It is used in contrast

with "flesh" (as "spirit" is), because it denotes that which is inward and invisible. This "mind" serves the law of God (Rom. 7:25) and delights in it (5:22). Hence, "the law of the mind" is put for "the law of God" in verse 23.

**Romans 7:23-25**

23 But I see another law in my members, warring against **the law of my mind**, and bringing me into captivity to **the law of sin which is in my members**.

24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

**Ro 7:18** For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but *how* to perform that which is good I find not.

**Ro 7:21** I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.

- 6.) **Another title is *pneuma-Christou* Christ's spirit, or Christ-spirit** (Romans 8:9). There is no article in the Greek. This is not another name for the Holy Spirit. Neither is it a separate spirit distinct from the Holy Spirit, for the "spirit of Christ", as man, was psychological; and was, as such, commended to the Father at his death (Luke 23:46). There is no other spirit of Christ. But this *pneuma-Christou* is the new nature which makes us "sons of God" as He is "the Son of God".

**Romans 8:9** **But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.**

**Luke 23:46** And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.

- 7.) ***Pneuma-Theou*, or Divine spirit** (Rom. 8:9, 14). The Greek is literally "spirit of God". Not "the Spirit" (for there is no article), but "God' s spirit"; or, as we may render it, Divine spirit. The two occurrences of this expression in this chapter tell us all we can know about this aspect

of the new nature. It is so called because, the thought thus connected with it is that, it comes from God. God is the Creator and Giver of the new nature.

**Romans 8:9** But ye are not in the flesh, **but in the Spirit**, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. **Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.**

**Romans 8:14** For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

**John 1:12-13**

12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

**Romans 8:14** For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

## **THE NEW NATURE: ITS CHARACTER AND END.**

**1.) It Cannot be Changed.** John 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

In the Garden of Eden man sinned and died spiritually, and began dying physically. The God minded nature was gone. Man could not perform that which was good without God Himself. Mankind following since Adam is no longer good. (Romans 1-3) Man is not good unto God; man is not good to God; Man is not good for God; Man is not good unto God; Man is not good for eternity; Man is not good as to what God looks for and asks for; Man is not good as to what God can accept to Himself.

The New nature gives to man the Spirit of God to perform unto God and for God good which is acceptable to God. There can be no acceptance to God without Christ in the heart, the "new birth," the new nature. The new nature is God minded and can by the Spirit perform that which is pleasing to God by faith and obedience to the Word Of God.

**1 John 3:9** Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

**1 John 3:18** My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

**John 6:63** It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

**1 Peter 1:22-23**

22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

**23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.**

**Ephesians 1:13** In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

**Romans 8:28-30**

28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

**Colossians 2:10** And ye are **complete in him**, which is the head of all principality and power:

2.) **The new nature is "Life and Peace."** **Romans 8:6** For to be carnally minded is death; but **to be spiritually minded is life and peace.**

**John 10:28** And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

**Galatians 6:8** For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

3.) **The issue and end of the new nature will be Rapture and Resurrection.**

**Romans 8:11** But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

**Philippians 3:10** That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

**Philippians 3:21** Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

Philippians 3 is an excellent chapter to study at this time relating to the old nature vs. the new nature. We are blessed as believers with the righteousness of Jesus Christ (Phil. 3:9). Our confidence toward God the Father is by our faith in Jesus Christ our Saviour, our righteousness, our hope of resurrection, our eternal life.

**Philippians 3:1-14**

1 Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous, but for you it is safe.

2 Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the concision.

3 For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.

4 Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more:

5 Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee;

6 Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

7 But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,

9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

The following verses are the reverse of the new nature, the born again child of God.

**Re 22:15** For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

**Mt 7:6** Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.

**Tit 1:15** Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.

**Tit 1:16** They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

## **THE CONFLICT BETWEEN THE TWO NATURES**

Having learned so much, separately, about the characteristics of the two natures, from **Romans 6—8**, we have now to learn the experience and the doctrine about them as existing together in the one personality. This doctrine is taught chiefly in **Romans 7**.

Every child of God has the experience, but not every such child knows the doctrine. This means nothing but trouble, confusion, doubt and anxiety. No rest can be known, no peace can be enjoyed unless we learn for ourselves from the Word of God, what His own explanation is concerning the conflict between the two natures.

### **The Structures of Romans 5:12 - 8:39.**

A 5:12-21. Condemnation to death of many, through the disobedience of one: but life and righteousness through the obedience of one—Jesus Christ,

B 6:1, 7:6 We are not in sin, having died in Christ.

B. 7:7--25. Sin (root sin; the sin nature) in us, though we be risen with Christ.

A. 8:1-39. Condemnation of sin in the flesh: but no condemnation to them which have life and righteousness in Christ Jesus.

### **The Structure of Romans 7:1-6:**

C. 7:1. The Lordship of the Law during life.

D a. v.2. Death releases the wife from its claims.

b. v.3. Result--Union with another husband.

D. v.4. Our death in Christ releases us from its claims.

b. v.4. Result--Union with Christ.

C. v.5, 6. Deliverance from Lordship of the Law by death.

**Galatians 5:17** For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

**Hebrews 4:12** For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and **is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.**

**Matthew 15:18-20**

18 But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man.

19 For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:

20 These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man.

**Romans 5:18** Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

19 For as by one man' s disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous

20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

## THE OLD NATURE: OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

**1.) Our first responsibility is to accept God's estimate of it.**

**2 Timothy 3:16** All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

**2.) Our next responsibility is that we are to reckon it as being dead for what is good, as well as for that which is bad.**

**a.** When we say "good" we mean, of course, good for, or unto God; good in God' s sight; good for eternity; good in God' s estimate, good as what God looks for and can accept to Himself. In His sight there is in the old nature "no good thing".

**3.) A third responsibility, which is to Make No Provision For The Flesh. (Rom. 13:14), but always to remember "the flesh profiteth nothing"(John 6:63).**

**Romans 13:14** But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

**John 6:63** It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

**Colossians 2:20-23**

**20** Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments (*rudiments means Elements*) of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances, **21** (Touch not; taste not; handle not; **22** Which all are to perish with the using;) after the commandments and doctrines of men? **23** Which things have indeed a shew of wisdom in will worship, and humility, and neglecting of the body; not in any honour to the satisfying of the flesh.

**Colossians 3:1-3**

**1** If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

**2** Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

**3** For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

**4.) The fifth verse adds another responsibility: "Mortify, Therefore Your Members Which Are Upon the Earth (Col.3:5).**

**Colossians 3:4 -10**

4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

6 For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:

7 In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.

8 But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

9 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

All so-called "good" works done by the old nature are "dead works". They are wrought by our members which are, in God' s estimation, "as good as dead". Only those are "good works" which God Himself has "prepared for us to walk in" (Eph. 2:10); and which are done in the spiritual strength of the new nature.

**Ephesians 2:10** For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

## THE NEW NATURE: OUR RESPONSIBILITIES.

Our responsibilities as to the new nature are exactly the opposite of those as to the old nature. Our first responsibility to the old nature is to reckon it as having died in and with Christ on the cross. So our first great responsibility as to the new nature is:

1.) To Reckon Ourselves alive in a new species of life of Rom. 6:11.

This new nature is life—new life, spiritual life, divine life, eternal life.

**Romans 6:11** Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We are not righteous by the law in our actions. Our righteousness is from and by Jesus Christ our Saviour. He died to pay our debt for sin. He raised from the dead to justify us from all sin. We are given the righteousness of Jesus Christ by His faith when we believe on Him as our personal Saviour.

### **Romans 3: 24 – 26.**

20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law *is* the knowledge of sin.

21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

22 Even the righteousness of God *which is* by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

24. Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

25 Whom God hath set forth *to be* a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

26 To declare, *I say*, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

2.) We are to walk in this new life. The Greek here for "new", *kainates*, newness.

1.) As to our walk, it is to be in "newness of life": i.e., as living on a new and different plane of life; no longer merely the physical life; but now, the spiritual life. No longer the life as derived from

the first Adam, but the life as derived from the last Adam, even Christ. A new sphere of life altogether.

- 2.) In Romans 7:6 this new sphere of life is used in connection with service "but now we were cleared [or discharged] from the law, having died to that in which we were held, so that we [are now privileged] to serve in newness of spirit (i.e., in the new sphere of the new nature), and not in the old sphere of [the] letter [of the law]". This tells us that our service is no longer to be governed by the "letter" of the law, but by its "spirit"; and our service is to spring from a new motive altogether; the other is old<sup>41</sup> and antiquated and out of date.

**Romans 7:6** But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter.

- 3.) But there is a third walk connected with this "newness", or new sphere, into which the new nature brings us; and that is in connection with worship. It is spoken of in Galatians 5:25, and it follows on as an additional thought to living in this new spiritual sphere. It has to do with our walk and worship, as being "in Christ", and not according to the religious ordinances of the world.

**Galatians 5:25** If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

- 4.) As to the world within. our walk is to be "soberly". The Greek *sophronos*, with self-control over all our desires, and a dignified constraint over all our members. This alone, and nothing short of this, is "gospel temperance". To limit this self-control to only that one of our desires which is created by thirst, is to miss the whole point of the injunction, and to leave all our other desires of the flesh, and of the mind, without restraint and without control.

**1Th 5:6** Therefore let us not sleep, as *do* others; but let us watch and be sober.

**1Th 5:8** But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

- 5.) As to the world without our walk is to be *dikaios*, righteously. And this, not only for righteousness, but from righteousness. Not because it is required by the laws and commandments of men, but because it is the desire of the new nature. Not from a sense of duty, but from the power of love. Not as servants, but as sons. Not as compelled by pledges, or badges, or vows, but as constrained by the divine nature within to walk righteously as to the world without.

**Tit 2: 10** Not purloining, but shewing all good fidelity; that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things.

**11** For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, **12.** Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

- 6.) As to the world above, our walk is to be "godly", (i.e., it is to have God for its one and only object. It will consist, therefore, not in the ordinances, and ceremonies of man' s religious traditions, but in the activities of the new nature. In a word, it is Christ only, in place of all that goes by the name of religion. It is Christ, and not even the "Christian religion", as being one of the many other religions; but Christ, or true Christianity. Thus, and thus only shall we fulfill this responsibility as to our new nature, and be of those "who [according] to spirit (or the new nature), worship (or serve) God; and glory in Christ Jesus; and have no confidence in the flesh".

**Philippians 3:3** For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.

- 7.) The third responsibility as to the new nature is To Feed And Nourish It On Its Own Proper Food. As the old nature, the flesh, is fed and nourished by that which is extraneous to it (for it cannot feed on itself), so it is with the new nature. Its food must come from without, It requires to be constantly supplied with the

food provided and suited for it. That food is the Word of God. Hence we are told that, as new-born babes, we are to desire the sincere or pure milk of the Word, that we may grow thereby.

**1 Peter 2:1-2**

**1** Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, **2** As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

**So dear, so very dear to God,  
Dearer we cannot be;  
For in the Person of His Son  
We are as dear as He.**

**Anon**

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