

*Main Scripture:*

**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.*

(New King James Version)

*Other Translations –*

**2 Corinthians 5:17**

*For if a man is in Christ he becomes a new person altogether; the past is finished and gone, everything has become fresh and new.*

(Phillips)

**2 Corinthians 5:17**

*Therefore, if a man is a Christian, he is a brand new creation. The old guy is gone: Look, a new man has appeared.*

(Cotton Patch)

*Definition –*

“In”

(Greek) A fixed position in time and space.

*Illustration –*

Right now we are “in” this building. Take a snap shot of time and space and right now we are “in” this building.

When someone accepts Jesus Christ they move to a new fixed position relative to time and space.

- They are “In Christ”.

**Col 1:13**

*He has delivered (rescued) us from the power of darkness and conveyed (translated or exchanged) us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,*

New King James Version

- God moved us into a new place.
- From Satan's kingdom into God's Kingdom.

**Gen 1:26**

*Then God said, let us make man in our image and according to our likeness...*

(New King James Version)

**Genesis 1:26**

*...Let us make man to our image, to be just like us.*

(The New Living Translation)

God created man to be rulers of this world. He entrusted it into our care...and He has not changed His mind.

- Think about what type of person you need to be if you are to be in charge of the whole world.
- God entrusted the governance of the whole world to man.

*Example –*

If you were going to apply for a job you would need certain job skills, a degree, and/or specific job experience.

- You would need the qualifications to perform that job.

How many of you here are qualified to be the CEO of Microsoft?

How many of you here are qualified to be the President of the United States of America?

How many of you here are qualified to be a cashier at your local department store?

How many of you here are qualified to rule and reign over all the earth?

- You may not think so but God thought so.
- God said so!!!

God qualified us; By making us just like Him.

### **Gen 1:26-28**

What did God give Adam authority over?

- Everything that moves upon the earth.
- That means only natural things.

God gave Adam authority over the natural world only!

When Adam sinned he opened a can of worms.

- Adam had no authority in the spiritual realm. But he opened the door to it.

Now Jesus shows up on the scene. Dies and is Resurrected and gives us authority over not just the physical world but also the spiritual world.

- The very world that we walked into, God now gives us authority over it!

### **Eph 1:21-23**

*far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.*

### **Mark 16:17-18**

*"These are some of the signs that will accompany believers: They will throw out demons in my name, they will speak in new tongues, they will take snakes in their hands, they will drink poison and not be hurt, they will lay hands on the sick and make them well."*

(The Message Bible)

The authority we have over the spiritual is accessed by the Words of Faith.

When we got Born again we became a whole new species. A whole new race of being that never ever existed before.

- We have been made greater than Adam.
- There is no comparison between the two of us.

When you got born again the old man was completely annihilated.

- Put out of existence.
- No longer around anymore.

### **Romans 6:4**

We were united with the death of Christ.

We are now united with the risen Christ.

### **John 17:4-5**

*I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.*

- This may be a very odd question – but which Christ had more glory?
- Not the one on the earth. The one before and after.
- Guess which one we are connected to?
  - The one after.

**Col 1:27**

*To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*

(New King James Version)

**Col 1:27**

*For God wanted them to know that the riches and glory of Christ are for you Gentiles, too. And this is the secret: Christ lives in you. This gives you assurance of sharing his glory.*

(The New Living Translation)

That's why Jesus said this:

**John 14:12**

*"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.*

**1 John 4:17**

*because as He is, so are we in this world.*

We need to realize that the Jesus Christ literally lives inside of us.

- His nature
- His life
- His love
- His faith
- His Spirit
- His power

## 1 Corinthians 3:4

*for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?*

(New King James Version)

*Definition –*

“mere men”

(Greek) “anthropos”; literally - Human

We are not just human, we are Christians! That’s why Paul asks the Christians at Corinth why were they acting like mere humans (men); because they weren’t just human anymore. They were much more than that.

- When we gave our life to Christ we gave up our mere humanity. Stop seeing yourself as a mere human.
- You are like God!
- He made you that way.