

SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW

Rom 5:19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.

When a bride gets married it is a custom to wear something old and something new. "Something old" symbolizes continuity with the bride's family and to the past. "Something new" means optimism and hope for the bride's new life ahead. This pictures our union with Christ when we got saved. We come through the salvation experience wearing something old and something new. What is old and what is new? The apostle Paul refers to the old man and the new man. What is the old man and what is the new man? The first instance we see the term "old man" is found in **Romans 6:6**:

Rom 6:6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

Paul states that our old man was crucified with Christ. It is important to take the scriptures in context. To do this it is important to note that when Paul wrote this letter it was not broken down into chapters or verses. It was a whole seamless letter. What Paul is speaking of here makes sense when we look at what he had just been talking about. We see in Romans chapter five Paul is contrasting one man with another man. The first man, Adam, brought sin and death into the world through his disobedience. A later second man, Christ, brought eternal life and righteousness through his

obedience. Through the first man, Adam, we all became sinners because we shared his fallen life. Through the later second man, Christ, those who accept him as Savior share His righteous life. Adam is the old man and Christ is the new man. Our old man is the fallen Adamic life we received from Adam. Our new man is the Christ life we now share from Christ. When we got saved we actually bear both the old and the new! We share the life of the new man in our reborn spirit and we share the fallen life of the old man in our fleshly body. We are wearing something old and something new!

Jesus came to earth as a representative for Adam and the human race. He is called the “last Adam” because in Christ God placed Adam and all that was in him into Christ. [1 Cor. 15:45] When Christ died, Adam died along with everyone in him. Jesus was then raised up as a new head of a new race called the new creation. He is called the second man. [1 Cor. 15:47] All those who believe in Him share His righteous life and are new creations. [2 Cor. 5:17] Jesus died to Adam and put him out of the way on the cross. Because we were in Adam we died to everything that Adam was subject to: sin, spiritual death, sickness, poverty, and all curses. When Jesus died as the last Adam and was raised again, we were taken out of Adam and placed into Christ. We now share His life and are subject to what He is subject to: righteousness, life, health, abundance, and blessings. We are no longer in Adam! We are now in Christ! This is a spiritual fact. However, our body is not spiritual. It is made of the cursed ground which God has not redeemed yet. That is why we still manifest the life of the old man, Adam, in our body. Although, we still have the old man in our body, we can experience freedom from sin, sickness, and lack through faith in

what was accomplished at the cross! When we place our faith in the fact that God put Adam away and took us out of Adam and placed us into Christ, then the Holy Spirit will manifest the new man in us! Christ and His life will be manifested in our mortal body! When this happens sin and sickness has to go!

Rom 8:11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Rom 8:12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors--not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.

Rom 8:13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

When we believe, speak, and act in faith in the fact of our identification with Christ on the cross and in resurrection then the Spirit of the new man, Christ, will give life to our mortal bodies to break the power of sin and sickness. To experience this however, we have to know what was done to us and for us in Christ. When we do we will see the new man manifested in our life! Paul tells us that we must put off the old man and put on the new man.

Eph 4:22 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,

Eph 4:23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,

Eph 4:24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

Paul tells us to put off the former conduct of the old man [who we were in Adam] and to put on the new man [who we are in Christ]. Put off and put on are clothing terms in the Greek. The put off and put on metaphor that Paul uses speaks of identification. Clothing is one of the major ways we identify ourselves. Every profession has clothing that identifies them, whether it is doctors, firemen, policemen, construction workers, kings, or paupers. Clothing reveals our identity or who we think we are. Paul is saying we are to put off the conduct of the old man Adam. We no longer are bound to act like Adam because we have been severed from Adam through the cross. We are no longer identified with him because we died to Adam and were placed into the new man Christ. We are now identified with Him. We now need to put on actions that look like Him! We can because we share His life and nature in our spirit. We can only partake of this new life by renewing our mind. That is what Paul says we need to do. We need to be renewed in the spirit [*in the core*] of our mind. We need a deep renewal of the mind to who we now are in Christ! Today, boldly proclaim that you are not subject to sin, sickness, lack, or curses because you are no longer identified with Adam. You are no longer connected with him! You are in Christ, the new man! You are

subject only to righteousness, health, abundance, and blessings. Believe this, speak this, and act upon this, and all things will become new!