

## ALL THINGS HAVE BECOME NEW!

(2 Cor. 5:11-17)

### Introduction:

1. What beautiful words, especially to those who have lived a significant portion of their lives outside of Christ. The reality/possibility of a Life-Mulligan is a joyous thought.
2. Let us consider this morning the concept of all things in Christ being a new creation (*kainos* not *neos*), and all things becoming new.

### Discussion:

#### I. Our relationship with God.

- A. Servant not Rebel.
  1. In sin, we were enemies of God (Rom. 5:6, 8, 10; 8:5-8).
  2. In Christ, we are reconciled to God (2 Cor. 5:18-21).
- B. Love not Fear.
  1. In sin, we lived in fear of God and the judgment to come (2 Cor. 5:10, 11; Rom. 8:12-15).
  2. In Christ, we are filled with the love of God and motivated by it to love Him and all who are His (2 Cor. 5:12-15; cp. 2 Cor. 1-5).
- C. Hope not Despair.
  1. In sin, we were without hope and despair often rules our lives (2 Cor. 5:10, 11; Titus 3:3).
  2. In Christ, our despair became hope and joy (Titus 3:3-7; 2 Cor. 4:16-18).

#### II. Our relationship with self.

- A. Self Honesty.
  1. In sin, our life was filled with self-deception.
  2. In Christ, we have received the truth and been set free (John 8:32).
    - a. Rom. 10:10 = confession = *homologeō* = “to say the same thing” = defines the problem.
    - b. Rom. 10:10 = believing the good news of Jesus Christ = provides the solution (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16).
- B. Self Love.
  1. In sin, we defined ourselves by the world which often led to false exaltation and false defamation.
  2. In Christ, we define ourselves by God which leads to our humility and our glory (2 Cor. 3:18; 4:17; 5:21; 12:11; 13:11-14).
- C. Self Denial.
  1. In sin, we were selfish and suffered because of it.
  2. In Christ, we are like God, concerned more about God and others (2 Cor. 5:14-16; Rom. 15:1-3).

#### III. Our relationship with others.

- A. Physical Family.
  1. In sin, we were not the children, spouses, parents, etc. we ought to have been because of our selfishness and our worldliness.
  2. In Christ, we can be the family members God planned for us to be (Eph. 5:22-6:4).
- B. Spiritual Family = Gal. 6:10; 1 Thess. 5:9-22.
- C. The World.
  1. In sin, we saw the world as opposition.
  2. In Christ, we see the world as opportunity (Gal. 6:10; Matt. 5:13-16; 1 Thess. 4:11, 12).

### Conclusion:

1. Our Lord's name has been in the public sector a lot recently, and now the New Year is upon us. Let us take these two and make of ourselves one wonderfully new servant of Christ.
2. Invitation.