

“All Things New!”
2 Corinthians 5:16-19

Introduction:

1. Let's Return To Our Study Of 2 Corinthians This Morning:
 - 2 Corinthians 5 - Where The Apostle Paul:
 - Has Been Sharing With Us:
 - Some Of The Main Motivations He Had:
 - In His Walk With & His Service For The Lord!
 - Last Week - We Learned That Paul Always Sought To:
 - Live In The Light Of Jesus Christ!
 - And Especially:
 - The Light Of Christ's Lordship Over Him:
 - As The All-Knowing & All-Seeing Judge He Would Someday Meet Face To Face!
 - As Well As:
 - The Light Of Christ's Love To Him!
 - The “Deep, Deep Love Of Jesus!”
 - The Love That Is Unsearchable & Inseparable For Those Who Truly Believe In Him & Belong To Him!
 - 5:14 - “The Love Of Christ [That] Constraineth [All Of] Us!”
2. And So - The Lordship Of Christ & The Love Of Christ:
 - Should Be All-Encompassing To Us As Well!
 - So Much So That - In The Words Of 5:15 - “They Which Live Should Not Henceforth Live Unto Themselves, But Unto Him Which Died For Them, And Rose Again!”
 - Is This How You Lived Your Life:
 - Last Week?
 - Not For Yourself - But For “Him Which Died For [You], And Rose Again?”
 - In The Light Of His Lordship Over You & His Love To You?
3. Well - In The Verses We Come To This Morning:
 - Paul Explains Further How - As Christians:
 - We Can Live This Way!
 - It Is Through The Power Of The One Who:
 - “Died For [Us] & Rose Again!” (5:15)
 - 5:16-19 - “Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more. / 17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. / 18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; / 19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation!”
 - It Is Not Just The Light Of Jesus Christ:
 - That Changes How We Live:
 - It Is The Life Of Jesus Christ As Well!
 - And Because Jesus “Rose Again” He Now Makes “All Things New” In Your Life As A Christian!
4. What We Just Read Is:
 - Nothing Less Than Spiritual Transformation:
 - And Life-Changing Renovation!
 - **IE:** Sometimes Enjoy Watching “Do It Yourself” Shows Where Families Find An Old House & Transform / Renovate It Into Their New Home! But Sometimes Frustrating - Because Most Of The Time - I Can't Do What They Do In The Way They Do It!
 - But The Transformation & Renovation That Takes Place In Your Life As A Christian Is Accomplished:
 - Through The Power & Work Of Jesus Christ!
 - The One Who “Died For You & Rose Again!”
 - In Fact - Christ Is Central In Each One Of These 4 Verses!
5. But - There's One Factor:
 - About This Renovation That We Often Forget!
 - And That Is - That The **Need** For Renovation!

- And The Need For **Ongoing** Renovation & Transformation In Our Lives!
 - The Truth Is - **IE**: Like Many Of Those Houses You Might See On TV / Or Along The Road - Your Heart & Life Apart From Christ Is A Wreck! Dilapidated / Deteriorated / Dead!
- This Is What Jesus Has To Work With!
 - But Through His Lordship / His Love / His Life:
 - He Will Completely Transform You:
 - And Make “All Things New!”

* First - We See That He Will:

1. Renovate Your Perspective In Life!

- 5:16 - “Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more!”
 - Jesus Christ Will Transform & Renovate:
 - Your Perspective In Life!
 - That Is - You Will Learn To See As Jesus Sees! Especially:
- How You Look At Others!
 - This Is What Paul Means When He Says:
 - “Wherefore Henceforth - From Now On - Know We No Man After The Flesh!”
 - “Flesh” In The New Testament Can Mean Something External Or Internal! When External - It Describes The Physical Nature Of Man / When Internal - It Describes The Fallen Nature Of Man!
 - Here - Paul Is Talking About His Inner, Fallen Nature - And How He **Used** To “Know” People!
 - That Is - How He Used To See People / Look At People / And Judge People!
 - He Was A Lot Like The False Leaders He Was Confronting - Who - 5:12 - Would “Glory In Appearance!”
 - Before He Came To Christ:
 - Paul Was A Very Prejudiced Man!
 - He Look At People According To His Own Standards!
 - What Impressed Him & Was Important To Him!
 - And Most Of The Time:
 - People Did Not Measure Up!
 - But Now - As A Christian - “From Now On” He Says:
 - “Know We No Man After The Flesh!”
 - This Means That - “Worldly Distinctions, Such As Those Of Race, Social Status, Wealth, And Title, Should No Longer Govern The Christian’s Estimate Of His Fellow Men!” (Philip Hughes)
 - This Is Why James Tells Us In:
 - James 2:1 - “My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons!”
 - Because This Reflects The Character Of God!
 - Romans 2:11 - “For there is no respect of persons with God!”
 - Remember - 1 Samuel 16:7 - “For the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart!”
 - When You Are A Christian:
 - You Will Learn To See Things The Way God Sees Things!
 - And Look At People The Way God Looks At People!
 - The World Likes To Divide People:
 - Using External Features!
 - **IE**: Debate Over Census Forms Every Ten Years!
 - But For Christians - There Are Really Only Two Categories That People Should Fall In To!
 - Those Who Know Christ!
 - Those Who Need Christ!
 - But Once A Person Knows Christ:
 - Listen To What Happens - Galatians 3:28 - “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus!”
 - Has The Lord Renovated / Transformed:
 - How You Look At Others?

- This Will Take Place Even As God Changed:
- How You Look At Christ!
 - Paul Continues - 5:16b - "Yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more!"
 - Again - "After The Flesh" Means Paul's Fallen Nature!
 - Before Paul Came To Christ:
 - He Knew About Christ & Looked At Christ:
 - According To His Own Standards!
 - And Jesus Did Not Measure Up!
 - Even Jesus Said This Of The Pharisees - John 8:14 - "Ye Judge After The Flesh!"
 - But Isn't This True About All Of Us!
 - Without God Himself Opening Our Eyes To See The Glory & Beauty Of Christ:
 - Isaiah 53:2 Would Still Be True To Us - "He hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him!"
 - But Now - As A Christian:
 - "Know We Him No More!"
 - This Means - That We Don't Know / Look At Jesus "After The Flesh!"
 - Instead - We See Him For Who He Is!
 - 1 Peter 1:8 - "Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory!"
- This Is The Kind Of Renovation We Needed:
 - In Our Hearts & Lives!
 - A Change In Our Perspective!
 - We Needed To See Things The Way God Sees Them!
 - Especially When It Comes Others!

* Then - We Find That God Will Also:

2. *Renovate Your Principles In Life!*

- 5:17-18a - "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. / And all things are of God!"
 - Jesus Christ Will Transform & Renovate:
 - Your Principles In Life!
 - That Is - You Are "A New Creature!"
 - **IE:** Once Again - Though - Sometimes We Forget Our Need For This, Don't We? We Focus Our Attention On The "New" Things God Gives Us, As Christians! New Hope In Christ! New Home With Christ! But It Starts With A New Heart From Christ!
 - You Need To Become A "New Creature!"
 - Galatians 6:15 - "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature!"
 - And So - We Are Given:
 - The Condition For Your Transformation!
 - "Therefore If Any Man Be In Christ!"
 - You Must Be "In Christ!"
 - This Describes The Personal, Intimate Relationship That You Have With Jesus:
 - When You Put Your Faith & Trust In Him!
 - This Is How It All Starts!
 - **IE:** Can't Renovate A House That Doesn't Belong To You! And So - When You Believe In Jesus, You Belong To Jesus, And "In Christ" - He Makes You Into "A New Creature!"
 - 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!"
 - But Along With This - "There Is A New Creation" That God Has Prepared For You!
 - And So We Also See:
 - The Change In Your Transformation!
 - 5:17b - "Old Things Are Passed Away; Behold, All Things Are Become New!"
 - There Is A Change From The "Old" To The "New!"
 - The "Old Things" Are:
 - "Passed Away!"

- This Means The Old Ways Of Doing Things:
 - An Example Of Which Paul Gave Back In 5:16 - When He Looked At Things - "According To The Flesh!"
- 1 John 2:16 Talks About:
 - The Lusts Of Your Flesh / The Lusts Of Your Eyes / And The Pride Of Your Life!
- Remember 5:14 - "If one died for all, then were all dead!"
 - That Is - When Jesus Died For You / You Died With Jesus!
 - And Your Old Man - "Passed Away" With Him On That Old Rugged Cross!
- Do You Believe This Truth?
 - Do You Live According To This Truth!
 - Romans 6:11 - "Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord!"
 - You Have Been Changed!
 - Even More!
- "Behold, All Things" Are:
 - "Become New!"
 - Your Affections Are New!
 - Your Main Love Is For Christ!
 - Your Attitudes Are New!
 - Your Main Goal Is To Please Christ!
 - Your Actions Are New!
 - You Want To Serve Christ!
 - And This Is The Way Things Will Always Now Be For The Christian!
 - "New!" **IE:** Like A Kid With A New Toy! 80 Year Old Man!
 - "Everlastingly New!"
 - So Unlike Our "New" Things In This World / Life!
- But How Often Do We Really Think:
 - In Terms Like This?
 - "Behold, All Things Are Become New!"
 - Do You Believe This?
 - Have You Experienced This?
 - Do You Daily Reckon & Live According To This Truth?
- This Is Reality For Every Christian!
 - 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!"
 - The Principles Of Your Life:
 - Have Been Radically Transformed & Renovated!
 - How? Through:
- The Cause Of Your Transformation!
 - 5:18a - "And All Things Are Of God!"
 - The "All Things" That Have Become New:
 - Are The "All Things" That Are Of God!
 - He Is Source / Author / Originator / Creator!
 - Only He Can Do This For You & In You!
 - So Only He Deserves The Credit & Glory!
- Because This Is The Kind Of Renovation We Needed:
 - In Our Hearts & Lives!
 - A Change In Our Principles!
 - We Needed To Made Into A "New Creation!"
 - And Praise God - He Has Done It Through Our Lord Jesus Christ!

* But Even Further - God Will Also:

3. Renovate Your Purpose In Life!

- 5:18-19 - "And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; / To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation!"
 - Jesus Christ Will Transform & Renovate:
 - Your Purpose In Life!

- That Is - You Will Learn To Serve As Jesus Served!
- Because - As A Christian - God Has Now Given You:
- The Ministry Of Reconciliation!
 - What God Has Done For You:
 - He Has Also Done For Others!
 - And That Is Why We Need To See People The Way God Sees People!
 - Either As Those Who Already Know The Lord!
 - Or As Those Who Desperately Need The Lord!
 - What Did God Do For You?
 - 5:18 - He - "Reconciled Us To Himself By Jesus Christ!"
 - Need To Remember Our Condition Before We Were Christians!
 - Even If You Were Saved At A Young Age!
 - You Were An Offense To God Because Of Your Sin! Your Nature Of Sin / Your Actions Of Sin!
 - But God - In His Infinite Grace:
 - Sent His Only Begotten Son Into This World:
 - To "Reconcile" You To Himself!
 - And So - Jesus Came:
 - As Our Savior! "To Seek And To Save That Which Was Lost!" (Luke 19:10)
 - He Also Came:
 - As The Christ! And To Sacrifice Himself For Our Sins!
 - 1 Peter 3:18 - "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God!"
 - And When You Grasp Onto Jesus Christ:
 - By Faith In Him - You Are Then Given By God:
 - A New Mission & Ministry!
 - To Tell Others About Him!
 - As Well As:
- The Meaning Of Reconciliation!
 - 5:19 - "To Wit, That God Was In Christ, Reconciling The World Unto Himself, Not Imputing Their Trespasses Unto Them!"
 - This Does Not Mean:
 - That Every Person In The World:
 - Has Been Reconciled To God!
 - Because We Know That This Is Not The Case!
 - But It Does Mean That:
 - "A World Of Lost Sinners" Can Now Have Hope In Jesus Christ!
 - Reconciliation Means:
 - That Any Sinner Can Become:
 - A Friend Of God!
 - Their Creator!
 - Reconciliation Means:
 - That Any Sinner Can Experience:
 - Fellowship With God!
 - Reconciliation Means:
 - That Any Sinner Can Receive:
 - Forgiveness From God!
 - When They "Come Unto God" By Believing In Jesus Christ! (Hebrews 7:25)
 - Romans 5:10-11 - "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. / And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement!"
 - And This Becomes:
- Our Message Of Reconciliation!
 - 5:19 - "And hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation!"
 - What Is This Word?
 - What Is Our Message?
 - Acts 4:12 - "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved!"

- And When You Realize That You Have Been Reconciled:
 - To God Through Jesus Christ!
 - And Can Now Enjoy The Friendship Of God / Fellowship With God / And Forgiveness From God!
 - This Will Transform & Renovate:
 - Your Purpose For Living!

Conclusion:

1. And You Will Be Compelled To Say With Paul:
 - 5:20 - "We pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God!"
 - Because Now You See:
 - As God Sees!
 - Because Now You Live:
 - Since Christ Lives!
 - And Because Now You Want To Serve:
 - As Jesus Served!
 - This Is What The Transformed Life:
 - Of A Christian Looks Like!
2. Has Your Heart & Life:
 - Been Renovated Like This?
 - Your Perspective In Life!
 - And How You Look At People!
 - Your Principles In Life!
 - And How You Live!
 - "Behold, All Things Are Become New!"
 - Your Purpose In Life!
 - And How You **Long**:
 - For Others To Be Reconciled To God:
 - As You Have Been!
 - Let The Lord Have His Way:
 - In Your Life Today!
 - Let Him Transform You:
 - And Renovate You:
 - Until - Ephesians 4:13 - "We all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ!"

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