

A Fresh Start: Leaving the Old, Embracing the New



Why Do We Need Fresh Starts?

"This year I'll finally..."

We often try to find fresh starts in the wrong places!!

This isn't just another fresh start, it's a New Creation

2 Corinthians 5:17 - NIV

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

1. God is in the Business of Making Things New

"Mew Creation"

- 1. καινή (New) means qualitatively new, not just chronologically new;
- 2. It echoes Genesis creation language and points to God's act of making something entirely new, not just improving the old.





1. God is in the Business of Waking Things New

2. Change is Possible Because God Initiates It.

"if amyone is In Christ"

What is "In Christ"?

- 1. Refers to the believer's union with Christ;
- 2. Indicates a complete identification with Christ;
- 3. Suggests a new sphere of existence.





God Initiates the Change

Just as an adopted child receives a new name, new family, new identity, and new inheritance purely because of their parent's initiative, we receive our new life purely because of God's initiative.

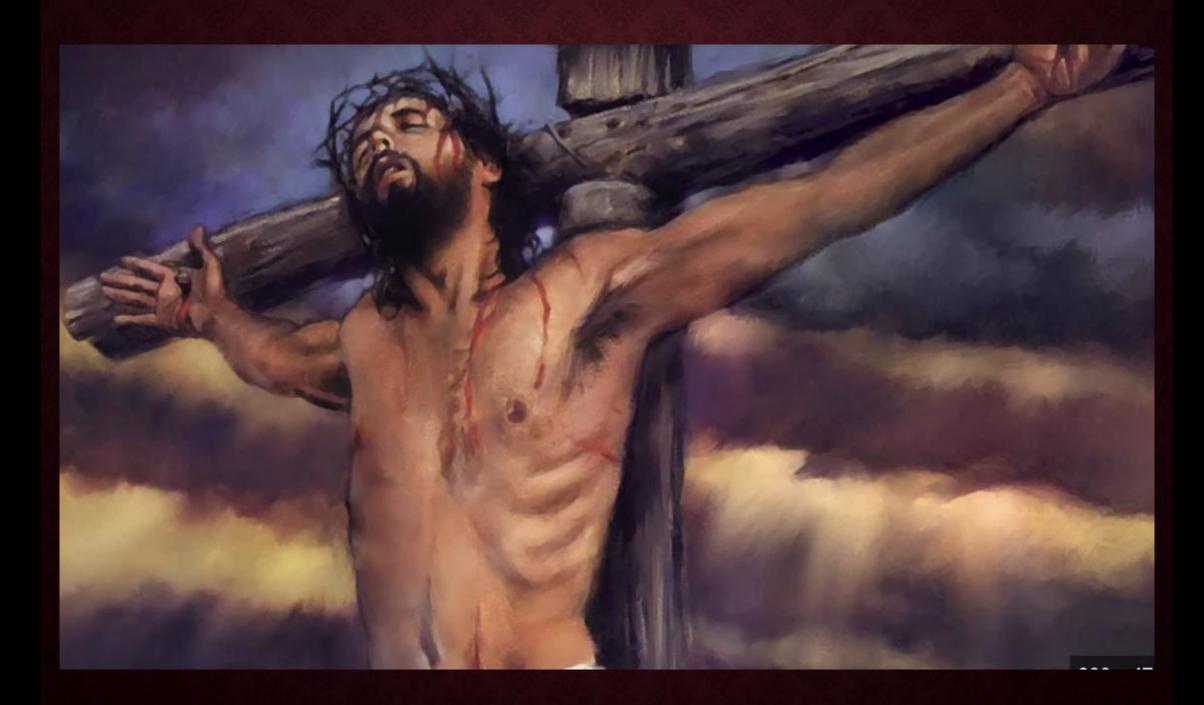
We simply receive what God has already initiated

We don't earn it, achieve it, or create it. Just as we didn't choose our first birth, we don't generate our second birth. God does that.

3. The Old Must Truly Pass Away for the New to Come.

"the Old Has Gone"

- 1. ἀρχαῖα(old) refers to the ancient or original state;
- 2. The tense suggests a decisive passing away;
- 3. It indicates a complete break with the past.



Partial changes don't work

The old must truly pass away! Not fade away slowly! Not hide in the corner for emergencies! Pass away completely!

Special Moment of Response Today

Your Dying-to-the-Old-Life Moment

Nail Old You to the Cross

Let it be a Decisive Moment

- 1. A complete surrender, not a partial compromise!
- 2. A full release, not a tentative letting go!
- 3. A total break with the old, not a gradual drifting away!
- 4. There's a decisive break, a point of no return!

Your Dying-to-the-Old-Life Moment

Closing Prayer