**Name:** Pastor Rodney Mooney

**Series/Subject:** Identification With Christ

**Title:** Embracing The New Creation Reality

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**Confession:** ***This is my Bible, the Living Word of God. I am, what the Word says I am. I have, what the Word says I have. I can do, everything the Word says I can do, and I will do it, in Jesus Name!***

**Text: 2 Corinthians 5:16-17** So from now on we regard no one according to the flesh. Although we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer.Therefore if anyone is **IN Christ**, he is a new creation. The old has passed away. Behold, the new has come!

**Introduction:** This passage is not just an inspiring concept for spiritual growth; it is a powerful declaration that being united with Christ brings a brand-new reality into our lives. The "old" is truly gone, and something entirely and wonderfully "new" has come. Today, we will explore what it means to be a "new creation" and how that Truth transforms every aspect of our lives.

1. **The Pivot: “So from now on”**
2. This phrase marks a decisive turning point from our old sinful self—a spiritual “reset button.”
3. It assumes a past pattern that must end and challenges us to step into a new eternal reality—that with Christ’s resurrection comes a new dawning of perception and relationship.
4. Before Christ, we lived by the flesh—life apart from the Spirit according to information and human reasoning, judging, comparing, and striving.
5. After Christ, we live by the Spirit—redeemed, renewed, and redefined, IN Christ.
6. Our lives are radically transformed now that we are IN Christ, and we have a whole new perspective and new way of living.
7. **Breaking Free from Fleshly Filters “we regard no one according to the flesh.”**
8. **Galatians 3:28** There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one **IN Christ Jesus**.
9. The flesh counts for nothing. All men in this regard are equal before God. A man is either IN Christ through faith in Jesus or they are not.
10. IN Christ, all distinctions dissolve.
11. According to: kata (kat-ah') It is a preposition that means: called, called out, chosen by, of that which so joins itself to one thing as to separate itself from another.
12. Flesh: sarx (sarx) It is a noun that means: flesh – the meat of an animal, the body, human nature – physically and morally, refers to the body and the soul (mind, will, and emotions).
13. “Kata sarx” (according to the flesh) points to a judgment based on external things such as appearances, social status, or performance according to: a standard, code, or law.
14. Paul calls us to shift from a flesh-based perspective, where people are defined by past, or external status – what they do, wear, or where they come from.
15. IN Christ we choose a Kingdom perspective, seeing the image of God in us and every person, and Christ’s redemption and potential for transformation in every man. (Love is the N.T. commandment. 1 John 3:23)
16. **Paul’s Own Reversal: “Although we once regarded Christ in this way,”**
17. Paul, previously known as “Saul of Tarsus” along with many religious leaders saw Jesus as a mere man, who threatened their interpretation of the Law and their traditions and they were afraid that Him and His followers would overthrow them, or that there would be a rebellion that would cause Rome to destroy the Temple and remove them from power.
18. This honest admission reveals that Paul himself once viewed Jesus through the same fleshly filters—judging Him according to the flesh.
19. His Damascus Road encounter shattered every human limitation he had created in his own mind. (Acts 9:3-7)
20. God can upend our narrow ideas about who Jesus is and what He can do IN us, for us, and through us!
21. **The End of Limited Sight: “we do so no longer.”**
22. The decisive “no longer” marks the end of flesh-based vision.
23. We as believers by revelation (not mere intellect) now see Jesus Christ as our risen Savior and Lord, Who is personally present in every believer living His Life IN us and through us!
24. He is a perfect gentleman. He will not force us. We must in everything yield to Him and acknowledge Him, letting Him lead.
25. This change in perspective is central to the Christian faith, highlighting the importance of viewing with spiritual insight and grasping the true essence of Christ's mission and identity.
26. **Romans 12:2** Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.
27. Paul is urging us to renew our minds so we can discern God’s will. This is not a one-time shift—it is a lifelong transformation (experiential sanctification).
28. Pray and ask God for fresh eyes (see Pauline Prayers). Let each encounter with Christ refine your vision and deepen your understanding of Christ IN you.
29. **The Source of All Transformation: “Therefore if anyone is in Christ”**
30. The word “therefore” points back to our union with Christ Jesus Who is the Source of our transformation.
31. “IN Christ” is the language of union and it is a positional Truth.
32. It speaks of being grafted into the life of Jesus—His Death, Burial, Resurrection, and Ascension.
33. He is the Source, the Vine, The Life, the Resurrection. To be IN Christ is not only a positional Truth but it is an eternal living reality.
34. **Philemon 1:6** I pray that your partnership in the faith may become effective as you fully acknowledge every good thing that is ours in Christ.
35. IN Christ our life is so entwined with His that His Life and resurrection power infuses every aspect of our identity, and as we acknowledge every good thing that is ours IN Christ we activate and loose that power.
36. **The Miracle of New Creation: “he is a new creation”**
37. Creation: ktisis (ktis'-is) original formation, creation that is founded from nothing
38. “New creation” means total transformation that is immediate spiritually and ongoing in our flesh (experiential sanctification) from self-centered to Christ-centered.
39. To be “a new creation” means entering an unprecedented state of being—a completely new Life IN Christ.
40. You are not a better version of your old self. Our old sinful-self was completely eradicated once and for all in our lives, and Christ moved in.
41. We are not trying to become new. We are new—because we are IN Him.
42. We are not only new in kind but we are new in quality.
43. Christ IN us rewrites our core-being (spirit-man) with His DNA, reshaping our desires, our will, and our destiny according to God’s redemptive purpose.
44. God did IN Christ Jesus what He wanted to do IN every man, making Him the Master Copy spiritually of all who believe in Him.
45. **Galatians 5:22-25** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23**gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. **24**And those *who are* Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. **25**If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.
46. Thisshows us the fruit of this new life: love, joy, peace… not manufactured, but Spirit-born.
47. **The Old Is Gone: “The old has passed away”**
48. “Has passed” means God’s forgiveness and renewal are not pending—they are fully accomplished IN Christ.
49. **Hebrews 8:12** For I will forgive their iniquities and will remember their sins no more.
50. **Hebrews 10:12** But when this Priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, He sat down at the right hand of God.
51. Christ’s one sacrifice removed our sin once for all – all that belonged to the old self—guilt, shame, broken patterns—has been removed forever!
52. Like an erased chalkboard, our past failures no longer define us; The Blood of Christ wipes the slate clean as though sin never happened and frees us to walk in newness of life. (John 8:32, 36)
53. **Celebrate the Present Reality: “Behold, the new has come!”**
54. Behold: idou (id-oo') behold, look, see, exclamation. It is a verb that demands special attention or focus to something or someone.
55. The command “behold” demands that we pause and truly see the miracle of the new birth that our recreated lives are not a future hope but a present reality to be experienced.
56. It is not “will come,” but “has come!” Christ’s resurrection power resides IN us now!
57. Whatever we need His Resurrection power is present to meet every need and Godly desire!
58. **Conclusion & Application**
59. This passage reveals that if you are IN Christ, the old is gone and the new has already arrived.
60. Today, invite the reality of your new creation in Christ to reshape your vision, your relationships, and your daily walk.
61. Meditate on how “from now on” marks a decisive shift—from fleshly filters to Spirit-led sight. You are seeing life through resurrection eyes.
62. Ask the Spirit to break any remaining chains of judgment, to reveal Christ living in you, and to awaken fresh wonder at your identity as a new creation.