

**BIBLE
STUDY
NOTE**

VOLUME 1, WEEK 8



DANIEL C. EMMANUEL

BIBLE STUDY NOTE

Copyright © 2018 Glory Publishing House

For more enquiries, contact:

Email: glorypublishinghouse@gmail.com

Tel: +2348166411545

Thank you for accessing this free eBook. Although this is a free book, it remains the property of the author. You are welcome to share it with your friends.

All rights reserved.

All Scripture quotations are from the King James Version of the Bible, except otherwise stated.

MAKING THE MOST OF THIS STUDY NOTE:

- 1. Be open to learn.**
- 2. Get your study materials: Book, Bible, Pen and Note.**
- 3. Take your time to study and understand.**
- 4. If you have any questions, contact the author with the details in the previous page.**

STUDY TEXT:

2 Corinthians 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.

WHY THIS STUDY?

1. To lead the believer to see his fellow believer as Christ does.

STUDY

The call to the Christian faith is a call to belong to a family. We have been called out into a family.

Ephesians 3:14-15

14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

15 Of whom **the whole family** in heaven and earth is named,

This is not your natural lineage, but a supernatural family. This is not a temporary family, but an eternal family. Everyone in Christ—male and female alike are part of this family. We are all brothers and sisters. So question, how do you treat your natural brothers and sisters? Special I hope! How much more your brothers and sisters in Christ?! And guess what? This relationship with your siblings in Christ lasts forever!

Your natural family will end one day, but the family in Christ lives on forever. This means that your relationship with believers should be the strongest relationships you have. So if you have members of your natural family who don't believe in Jesus right now, if you don't want your relationship with them to end on this earth, let it be top on your heart to see to it that they come to the knowledge of the saving grace in Christ before they leave this world. The truth is this: the believer and unbeliever have no meeting point in eternity.

Ephesians 2:12

That at that time **ye were without Christ**, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, **having no hope, and without God in the world:**

The unbeliever is without Christ; he has no hope; he is without God in this world. If in this earth, he is without God because he has not believed in Jesus Christ, then sure enough he can't be with God in eternity. There is no meeting point. He knows his eternal destination from here. That's why we need to keep preaching the Gospel to the unbeliever so that they can be a part of God's family that lasts forever.

Now, to our text for today. It is a popular one, but let's take our time to study it:

2 Corinthians 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.

That statement "**if any man**" is one word in the original Greek which is "**ei tis**" and it implies **if any; whosoever**. And what happens to anyone or whosoever is in Christ? He is a new creature! He is formed anew. He is one that has not existed before. He has been recreated in Christ. He is a new person altogether. The old is gone and the new is come!

Therefore we must see everyone in Christ as new. We must not see them as we did before. We must see and relate with them just as God does—new! A new creature is not an improvement of something, it is an entirely new formation—a new specie. This is how to view the believer in Christ. The old is passed and he has become new! Glory to God! Where is the individual made new?

2 Corinthians 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**.

The believer is made new in his spirit. The man (not gender specific) in Christ is made new in his spirit. We don't know the believer according to the flesh, we know him in Christ; in his recreated spirit. We treat him in Christ, not in the flesh. We regard him in his recreated spirit in Christ. This is where we see the believer always.

Observe the following texts:

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.

There is no segregation. The man is not more important than the woman in God's eyes. We are all one in Christ Jesus. Now, in the home, the man is the head and should love his wife as Christ loved the Church and the woman is to submit to her husband as unto the Lord (Ephesians 5:22-25).

Observe the comparison: For the man, as Christ loved the Church. How did Christ love you and me? Did He boss the church (believers) around? He loved! Likewise, the husband should love his wife as the head in the home. For the woman, submit as unto the Lord. So when the wife is submitting to her husband, she is doing it as unto the Lord.

These instructions are specific to the home. But in the Church, Christ is the head, we are all the body of Christ—male and female alike. So no segregations or treating one more than the other. We are all one in Christ Jesus! This doesn't mean we dishonor our leaders in Church, no! But understand that God sees everyone equally—one in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:13-15

13 But now **in Christ Jesus** ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

14 For he is our peace, **who hath made both one**, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition *between us*;

15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, *even* the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances; **for to make in himself of twain one new man**, *so* making peace;

We who sometime were afar off have been near by the blood of Christ. In Christ we have been made new. What we have today is the man (not gender specific) in Christ.

Colossians 3:10-11

10 And **have put on the new *man***, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

11 Where **there is neither Greek nor Jew**, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond *nor* free: but **Christ *is* all, and in all**.

The believer in Christ has put on the new. He is a new individual in Christ!

Let's see **verse 11** in the **Living Bible Translation**:

In this new life one's nationality or race or education or social position is unimportant; such things mean nothing. Whether a person has Christ is what matters, and he is equally available to all.

Our standard of viewing the believer is based on the fact that he is in Christ. Not the country or state he comes from. Not his educational qualification or social status. All these things mean nothing. What matters is if a person is in Christ. So we don't have a Yoruba, Igbo or Hausa Christian (tribes in Nigeria) or an American, European or Asian Christian. What we have is a Christian who is Yoruba, Igbo, Hausa, American, European or Asian. His identity is first in Christ because that is what will last forever.

So I say, I am a Christian who is Nigerian. My true identity is Christ and so it is for every believer—our true identity is in Christ. So in making marital choices, the believer is not one to insist on marrying from a specific tribe or culture. Nothing wrong if you choose to marry from a specific tribe, but first and foremost your criteria for choosing **is in the Lord**—a believer in Christ!

Growing up I had this notion based on some knowledge I had been exposed to at the time, that there are some tribes I can't marry from. But as I have grown and

come to understand God's word, that notion has changed. I treat people in Christ first of all always. So my marital choice is not based on the person's tribe. It is based on the person being a believer and seeing the need for the salvation of souls; the fact the person can submit to me as unto the Lord as I love her as Christ loved the church. The Word of God forms my ideology and it should be so for every believer in Christ—the Word of God is our standard.

Now observe the latter part of verse 10 above, "...renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him."

Remember we said earlier that the believer is made anew in his spirit. His spirit is what got recreated; born again. His mind didn't get born again. So what does he do with his mind? He renews it in knowledge after the image of him—Christ that created him. The believer needs to renew his mind in the knowledge of Christ. With this renewal, what has been made legal will become vital. As he renews his mind, he will walk in the reality of his real nature which is in Christ.

See how Paul puts it in **Romans 12:2**

And **be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

So the believer is not to be conformed to this world and that will only happen as he renews his mind with the word of God. The transformation the believer needs will come as he renews his mind with the word. The world shouldn't shape the believer's culture, the Word of God should. So when we see a believer not walking in the reality of his real nature, what we need to provide the believer with is the mirror of God's Word for him to see and act out what he sees in there. The word of God is what matures the believer. So yes, we have been made anew in our spirits, but we have the responsibility to renew our minds with the word of God so we can

walk in the reality of our real nature in Christ which is the will of God for us. You are blessed. God loves you. Yes, you!

Affirmations

I am a new creature in Christ

The past is gone and the new has come

I treat all believers in their real nature; in Christ.

OUR MISSION

We believe that a published material will go where one may not go physically. And that is why our mission is to see the Gospel of Christ published in all nations through our various publications.

CONTACT US

Tel: +2348166411545

Email: glorypublishinghouse@gmail.com