

THE NEW NATURE BLOCK TWO

2 PETER

1:4 _

We have been given exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

THE NEW NATURE

IMPORTANT POINTS

- 1. Salvation changes everything.
- 2. We receive a "New Nature" in Christ.
- 3. Our New Nature grants us a spiritual predisposition towards Godliness.
- 4. The New Nature is nurtured through Godly choices.

When a person gets 'Born Again,' what changes? The answer to that question is 'Everything!' These 12 lessons in this New Creation Realities Module will focus on what we get when we get saved ... what changes. As I said, everything changes.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. Now all things are of God ...

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-18

All things are of God! Let's hold there for just a moment. Imagine with me as we look back to the moment we were born. Life does not begin with the first breath rather life exists even in the womb. Without consideration of any legal or political arguments, we understand that life, although very limited and incredibly vulnerable, exists in the womb, before birth.

When a child is born, things change: position, perspective, and potential.

Limits expand and things which were previously impossible are now possible because you are no longer in mom but in the world. However, growth and development will need to occur before a person can take full advantage of their new reality.

This is not unlike the change which occurs when a person is born again. Their limits expand and things which

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were not possible before are now within their grasp as they grow and develop "In Christ."

When a person is born again all things are new and all things are of God, including a new God-given nature.

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> **2 PETER** *1:4*

Through Christ we escape the corruption that is this world and are made partakers of the divine nature ... human beings with a divine nature ... a new creature in Christ Jesus ... new spiritual DNA ... new possibilities ... new potential ... new perspectives ... New Nature.

Life is a process and, ultimately, life is what you do with what you have – It's no different with the new life which comes through Christ. In order to reach our God given potential, we must properly nurture our new nature.

Put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

> **EPHESIANS** *4:22-24*

The born again life is a process of cleaning out and cleaning up our lives to reflect our new nature. It is a process of "putting off" and "putting on."

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Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him.

COLOSSIANS 3:9-10

Just because you are born into this world does not guarantee you will be successful or prominent or wealthy or healthy or happy or liked. It is the same with being born again into the family of God. Just because you are born again and have received a new nature with new opportunities and a new destiny does not guarantee you will be successful, prominent, wealthy, healthy, happy, or liked. Life, even the new life we receive in Christ, is work. However, we have an advantage – a new nature; a divine nature created according to God in true righteousness and holiness after the image of Him who created us.

When you were born again you became a new creation in Christ and received a new spirit, a new heart, a new hope, a new conviction, a new destiny and a new nature. You are not the same ... everything changed.

We all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not

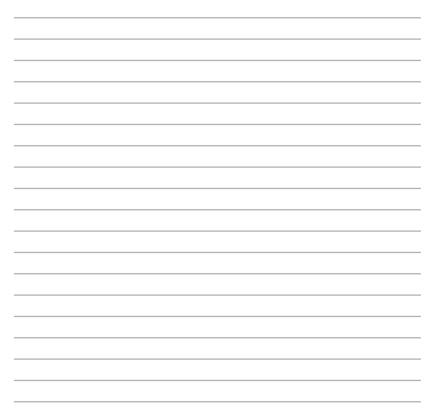
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of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

EPHESIANS 2:3-10

In order to take advantage of our opportunities and reach our potential in Christ, we must nurture this New Nature by walking in the good works of God. Good works do not save us, make us righteous or holy. However, good works do help us develop and reflect the divine nature we possess in Christ. Learning to live the new creation life is a process.

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