

Just Look at You Now
II Corinthians 5:16-21, I Samuel 10:1-11
June 24, 2018

- **Once there was a young man named Saul.**
- **Went looking for his father's donkeys and encountered the prophet Samuel.**

1. Saul became a new person.

I Samuel 10:6,9,11. ⁶ ***The Spirit of the Lord will come powerfully upon you, and you will prophesy with them; and you will be changed into a different person. ...*** ⁹ ***As Saul turned to leave Samuel, God changed Saul's heart, and all these signs were fulfilled that day. ...*** ¹¹ ***When all those who had formerly known him saw him prophesying with the prophets, they asked each other, "What is this that has happened to the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?"***

- **This Saul is an unfortunate example.**
- **He did not live the change.**
- **He reverted to the old ways**

- **Once there was a young man named Saul.**
- **He was very religious. Went to the best schools. Became a Pharisee.**
- **Hated Jesus and Persecuted the church.**
- **He encountered the Risen Jesus and became a new person.**
- **Changed his name. Apostle Paul.**

2. We become new people in Christ.

II Corinthians 5:16-17 ¹⁶ ***From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer.*** ¹⁷ ***Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.***

- Saul/Paul was a great example of becoming a new person!
- Spread the Gospel. Started churches. Wrote letters.
- (These are the “shiny gold people” we’ve been talking about.)
- So what do these new people, these shiny gold people look like?
- The Baptismal Vows give us a good sketch.

3. We renounce evil and its power in the world which defies God’s righteousness and love.

- Evil in the abstract and “the evil one.” Lord’s prayer.

I Peter 5:8 *Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.*

John 10:10 *The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*

James 4:7 *Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*

4. We renounce the ways of sin that separate us from the love of God.

- The question itself provides us with a great definition of sin. Sin is that which separates us from the love of God.
- When we urge people to live according to God’s teachings, that is an act of LOVE, because sin separates us from the Love of God.

Titus 3:3-5a *At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another.*

4 But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us ...

- Often “the ways of sin” are an acting out of our hurts, fears, insecurities and so on.
- Sometimes we’re malicious because we’ve been hurt.
- Sometimes we’re envious because we feel deprived etc.
- We hate because we feel unloved.
- We’re “vicious” (filled with vice) because we’re victims.
- We renounce ALL of that.

Romans 6:1-4 *What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase?*

2 *By no means! We*

are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?

3 *Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?*

4 *We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.*

- *On the one hand, we died to sin. We are not its slave.*
- *Dying to sin is beyond our power. God has done this for us in Christ.*
- *On the other hand, we need to be reminded to live the new life.*

Ephesians 4:22-24 *You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires;*

new in the attitude of your minds; new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

23 *to be made*
24 *and to put on the*

Colossians 3:5 *Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: [b] sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.*

(Read verses

5-11. *I’ll preach on these next Sunday.)*

- *There is a struggle between the old person and the new person. We daily put off the old person. Kill the bum!*

5. We turn to Jesus Christ and receive Him as our Lord
and Savior.

Titus 3:4-5a *But when the kindness and love of God our
Savior appeared, 5 he saved us ...*

I Timothy 1:15 *Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves
full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to
save sinners—of whom I am the worst.*

Matthew 1:21 *She will give birth to a son, and you are to
give him the name Jesus, because he will save his
people from their sins.”*

Romans 5:9 *Since we have now been justified by his
blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s
wrath through him!*

Luke 2:11 *For unto you is born this day in the city of
David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.* (ESV)

- **Gospel**

Philippians 2:10-11 *that at the name of Jesus every knee
should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the
earth, 11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus
Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father*

- “Jesus is Lord” means “Jesus is Yahweh.” Jesus is God.
- “Jesus is Lord” was a contrast to “Cesar is lord.”

Luke 6:46 *“Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not
do what I say?”*

6. We intend to be Christ’s faithful disciples, obeying His
Word and showing His love until our life’s end.

Matthew 16:24 *Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone
would come after me, let him deny himself and take up
his cross and follow me.”* (ESV)

- Discipleship is costly. It is an investment of your entire life.

- It is an investment with great pay-off
- (Matthew 26:25-26 *For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.* 26 *For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?)* [or soul]

John 13:35 *By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."*

- It's God's love in us.
- The key to serving and obeying God is to love one another as He loves you!
- We need one another's encouragement and support.

7. _____ is a new person in Christ.

- I'll ask the new members to take the vows. Then I'll say "How about you?" You can reaffirm your vows.
- Think of who you were before Christ.
- Think of those parts of your life that are still BC.
- Sin, hurts, vice and victimization.
- God is healing those. God is restoring you in His image.
- Whether you are professing your faith in Christ for the first time or you've been following Him for decades.
- You're becoming a new person.
- The Holy Spirit is making you more like Christ.
- Just look at you now!

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