

Message Four

The New Man and the New Creation

Scripture Reading: Gen. 1:26; Eph. 2:14-16; 2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 6:15

- I. God's intention in His creation of man was to have a corporate man to express Him and to represent Him—Gen. 1:26; Eph. 2:15:**
 - A. God created man in His own image for His expression and gave man His dominion that man would represent Him to deal with His enemy—Gen. 1:26.
 - B. What was divided and scattered in the old man is recovered in the new man—Gen. 11:5-9; Acts 2:5-12; Col. 3:10-11.
- II. This corporate new man eventually becomes the new creation of God—2 Cor. 5:17:**
 - A. The new man in resurrection as the new creation is full of newness and full of life:
 1. The old creation is our old man in Adam, our natural being by birth, without God's life and the divine nature—Eph. 4:22.
 2. The new creation is the new man in Christ, our being that is regenerated by the Spirit of God, having God's life and the divine nature wrought into it, having Christ as its constituent, and having become a new constitution—vv. 22, 24; John 3:6, 36; 2 Pet. 1:4.
 - B. The new creation is composed of sons; it is a corporate, divine sonship brought forth through Christ's redemption, the Spirit's regeneration, and God's dispensing of Himself into us, and through our entering collectively as this new man into an organic union with the Triune God—Gal. 3:26; 4:5, 7.
- III. The new creation is in Christ as the element; the very Christ is the element, the factor, of the new creation—Eph. 2:15:**
 - A. Christ Himself is the essence of the new man; hence, in Himself He created the two, the Jews and the Gentiles, into one new man.
 - B. In the one new man Christ is all because He is the essence with which the new man was created; therefore, the one new man is Christ.
- IV. The new creation is the unique accomplishment in God's economy—Gal. 6:15:**
 - A. The most crucial matter in God's full, all-inclusive salvation is His making us a new creation.
 - B. From the creation of the world, God uses four dispensations to perfect and complete His chosen people that they may be His eternal, corporate expression for the accomplishing of His purpose:
 1. The dispensation before law, from Adam to Moses—Rom. 5:14.
 2. The dispensation of law, from Moses to Christ—John 1:17.
 3. The dispensation of grace, from Christ's first coming to the restoration of all things at Christ's second coming—Acts 3:20-21.

4. The dispensation of the kingdom, from Christ's second coming to the end of the millennium—Rev. 11:15; 20:4, 6.

V. The new man is God's masterpiece to be the new creation of God as the ultimate consummation of the work of God—Eph. 1:9-12; 3:9-11:

- A. This new man needs to work, to move, and to carry out God's purpose:
 1. To do this, the new man needs a new universe; this new universe is the new creation.
 2. In this new universe, which is the new creation, the new man as a corporate person, the enlarged and corporate Christ, brings forth the Body of Christ, which is the very good pleasure and heart's desire of God.
- B. The new man and the new creation are for the producing of the Body of Christ, which will eventually become the New Jerusalem as the consummation of the work of God.