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BY

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To know if the life of the believer has changed, one should have the understanding and the characteristics of a changed spiritual life. God is Spirit, and they that worship him must worship him in Spirit and truth. Is there an exchange from the older adult to the new man? Galatians 2:20 means that our old life is an exchange for the life of Christ. According to the author, "this approach to spirituality moves from work to grace orientation and from legalism to liberty because it centers on our acknowledgment that Christ's life is our life." (p.101).<sup>1</sup>

The believer is in a position of a continual process of spiritual growth, through acceptance, admission, submission, recognition, confession, awareness, and the reality of what's taking place in their lives. This operation is taking place through the power of the Holy Spirit and by following the word of God. The change in a life experience through Christ transforms the believer to progress in a foundational relationship. Boa list several principles which will enable the believer, such as; the substitution of Christ's life for the self-life. The evil practice of the old self has laid aside, and pure knowledge has renewed to a new person — this new self-created in righteousness and holiness of the truth. The believer identified with Christ in his crucifixion, burial, resurrection, and ascension. The liberty from the law of sin and death through the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus, because we are no longer under the power of law, but under grace. The salvation of the believer is sanctification. Since the believer is being justified by grace through faith, it is not by the merits of good works or our fleshly efforts; it is an outpouring of the Spirit.

In reality, the emptiness of life affords brokenness, bankruptcy, loneliness, and darkness. Unconditional surrender is a process of a life with Christ. Through these conditions, Christ is welcome in the heart of the believer. Christ is the true vine, and believers are the branches. As branches, we receive life through the connection of the vine. The new life we now bore the fruit and is displayed in and through the life of the believer. Scripture says, "let your light so shine

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<sup>1</sup> K. Boa, "Conformed to His Image," 2001

before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matt.5:16 KJV). Now that the believer has received this new life, it becomes a productive seed. The gospel is to be shared, and the vine must sustain those who receive it. Continued fruitful life in the true vine of Christ Jesus nourishes others and encourage them to abide as courageous servants.

The believer's life has now become an inside-out rather than an outside-in process. The spiritual eyes of the heart are enlightened. His nature yearns for the knowledge of spiritual truth, and he desires to grasp the inheritance and the power of his calling. His heart burns with the hunger and thirst for righteousness. He is eager for wisdom, knowledge, and understanding, which moves him to seek after the truth of the word of God. According to Proverb, "wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding." (Prov. 4:7). Knowledge is the accumulation of information, understanding is the grasping, comprehension, and interpretation of that information, but wisdom is the application of the information, which we understand. He seeks a personal relationship; he now wants to read and study to show himself approved. Walking in the integrity and the faithfulness of the word is imperative to his new life in Christ. To realize that he's no longer his own but a whole new creation in Christ Jesus. A renewed mind is surrendered totally to Christ. It is willing to operate in obedience to the will of the Father.

It is God who strengthens us with power through his Spirit. He sanctifies the believer in his work for his good pleasure. Our exchanged life is resting in hope for what he has already done. Our new nature in Christ identifies us as a new creation, adopted in the family of God

through the blood of his beloved son Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Thank you, Lord, for your lovingkindness, your grace and mercy and all your benefits towards us. Amen