

GOODNEWS LETTER

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SALVATION, IN LIGHT OF THE NEW CREATION "For the LORD of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul it," Isaiah 14:27.

Beware Brethren! Wake up and remember your **Landmarks, historical roots and Baptist Theology. Take a stand!!!**

Although, it's almost impossible to imagine, the facts are, a "**few**" Baptists have lifted up man to the status of God, or a God-like being when the resurrection arrives.

And, even more disturbing is the position that these **Neo-Baptists** place the saved until the resurrection occurs. According to the "**few**," a saved person isn't saved until he enters the church by baptism. And, GET THIS, if a saved person leaves the church and is excluded, he loses his saved position; which, of course means that he must be saved again.

To me, Pentecostal Baptists does not have a good sound to it. It's like finger nails across a black board. But, these "**few**" do not claim to be Pentecostal. They are, and want to be, Missionary Baptists. They still call themselves Missionary Baptists and cling to the historical lineage that Missionary Baptists have declared over the years. They love to shake their chain and have it rattle all the way back to Jerusalem.

Problems abound, here! However, rather than deal with the obtrusive errors of salvation - losing it or regaining it, let's take a look at the position that a faithful Missionary Baptist Church member has in the **New Creation**, before he goes to glory and before this life ends.

John says, "**Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and, it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him;**" I Jn 3:2.

If we fall in with the "**few**," then our present position as "**sons of God**" is only temporary and, if we fail in service - it stands to reason that all can be forfeited.

But, I remember from the Old Covenant, that a "**first born son**" received a double blessing and the other sons remained as sons; even, receiving a blessing that the father presented to them. Being born to God's family is no small thing. It's eternal.

The most striking portion to me is how the "**few**" approach **salvation**. They major on the unfaithful so much that they have to come up with a separation. It's demanded! But, it's one that goes way beyond Scripture.

If I have this correct (for the "few" are elusive) these **neo-leaders** identify the position of the church in the same manner that Jesus was after the resurrection; that is, when He was glorified. All those outside the church are excluded - all are lost. What they do with the **nations**, the **unprofitable** and **unfaithful servant**, I don't know. It is another area of real concern.

But, the **GoodNews Letter** isn't a book, so let's look at the glorified Jesus and try to see what actually took place in His **Incarnation** and in His **resurrection**.

In my mind (historically, doctrinally and Baptistically), the "**few**" have approached the resurrection incorrectly; which, I feel is mainly due to a misunderstanding of His **Incarnation**.

What we are looking at - what we must see, is that Jesus established a **New Creation**. "**..I am from above ... I am not of this world...**" (Jn 8:23). And, if, indeed a **New Creation** is to be understood, then it is **incorrect** to think that one shall go back to the Old Creation once we enter the New - in any sense. That's because "**Old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new**" (1Cor. 5:7).
When we entered the New, we ENTERED A PERSON, JESUS CHRIST.

While, the Bible says that a saved person may love the "old" way and align his life with the present "old" world (see Ro 8), this does nothing to what Jesus did on behalf of the saved. **He moved the "old" out of the way** by overcoming the spiritual principles that enchained AND enslaved mankind.

With the "old" removed, the New began. That's how and why a person is saved. He is free of the "old" and free to live for God in the New Creation.

The **picture of salvation** is clearly seen in Israel's removal from bondage. And, while a saved person may forget that "**he was purged from his old sins;**" (2 Pe 1:9) that changes nothing that Jesus did for him. All of Israel was freed and NOT ONE ISRAELI EVER RETURNED TO EGYPT.

What Jesus accomplished, no one changes. Yes, many saved will pull their buried talents out of the ground on that day, but they will stand there because of what Christ did for **them**; not, what they **did or didn't do** for Him.

In stating that "**all things have become new**" (1st Co 5:7), Paul places the **future world of Spiritual Laws into the present**. If we think about it, New Covenant Spiritual Laws had to be in place in order to overcome and remove the old laws of sin and death. If we continue to think, then those new Laws are permanent, established in the Person of Jesus, Himself.

So, Paul saw the Spiritual Laws applied now, although he lived and waited for them to overtake the physical world and change the body when Christ comes.

Therefore, the **beginning of the New Creation** was when Jesus became man. It was His condescending, His lowering, into the Fallen Creation of Adam. And, it is in His condescending that all parts of salvation starts. For man to be rescued, Jesus had to become man.

John 1:1 declares, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." This is God's doing. The Second Person entered man when "...the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us..." (Jn 1:14).

The meaning of the **New Creation** is not that we will become gods. The meaning is, **GOD BECAME MAN**. Further, the order is not a **man-to-God** one; but, it is a **God-to-man**; which Jesus became and accomplished.

The **New Creation** means that Jesus gave up forever and forever His unique and glorious position that He shared with the Father and Holy Spirit. He will **never** retake the position of a son, singularly again.

This is what Hebrews 2:10 wonderfully explains. "For, it became Him (The Father) ... in **bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain** (author) of their **salvation perfect** (mature) **though suffering.**"

He became a **New Creation** by His birth, death and, at His resurrection, He established the New. Now, man might live on in the flesh. But, we must always remember: unless, Jesus became man, paying for our sin as a man, mankind had no hope at all.

A final point is that Jesus has earned - has been given - the right to rule and reign on earth, over all aspects of man's doings. However, and here's the most **wonderful and greatest explanation of God's love in sending His Son**, Jesus reigns until "...he shall deliver up the kingdom to God, the Father...." (I Cor. 15:24). After then, "... the Son also Himself be subject unto Him that put all things under Him, that God may be all in all" (V28).

Jesus gave up His glory with the Father to save and give man a new life. He gave it up, not for 33 years or 1000 years; but, for eternity. He loves us.

Faithfulness is often explained as trusting Jesus in all things that He has done. When we trusted Him to be saved, it was and is, for eternity. We can also trust that He will reign on earth as King. And, how can we not serve a Lord that gave up everything on our behalf? Even His uniqueness of the only Begotten Son? He desires that you and I serve with Him as brothers. Amen!