I AM A NEW CREATION

Welcome to Lifestyle of Freedom!

Today we're going to learn bout I AM A NEW CREATION!

The apostle Paul wrote these words:

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a <u>NEW CREATION</u>; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

THE OLD LIFE IS OVER, GOD MAKES ALL THINGS NEW.

- It's not a remake of the old model; it's new!
- It's not just an improvement of the old; it's a new life.

God told prophet Ezekiel:

"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you." (Ezek 36:26)

When we have got the **powerful revelation** of **WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST**..... what it means to be a new creation.

It will bring <u>FREEDOM</u> from feelings of <u>GUILT</u>, <u>CONDEMNATION</u>, <u>INADEQUACY</u>, <u>AND INFERIORITY</u>.

We as believers will begin to walk in an exciting new dimension of **FREEDOM**, **AUTHORITY**, **BOLDNESS**, **POWER**, **AND VICTORY** in our lives and ministries.

We will find ourselves boldly declaring:

- I know who I am in Jesus Christ!
- I am what He says I am!
- I can do what He says I can do!
- I can have what He says I can have!

MANKIND - CREATED IN GOD'S IMAGE

To understand what we are as new creations, we must understand <u>how men and women</u> were first created to be.

We must understand that God had a **PURPOSE** and a **PLAN** when He created men and women in His own image and gave them complete authority over this earth.

Genesis 1:26-28 Then God said, <u>"Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion</u> over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Then God blessed them, and God said to them, <u>"Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion</u> over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

CREATED IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

We were created in the image of God.

As new creations, we are being conformed to the image of His Son. An image is an exact likeness.

According to Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, the word "image" means:

- An imitation or representation of a person
- The visual impression of something produced by reflection from a mirror

GOD CREATED ADAM IN HIS EXACT LIKENESS.

He created him to be just like God – a mirror reflection of God in his physical body, in his God-like soul, and in his spirit, which was alive with the life and breath of God.

Mankind was created to be the image and glory of God on this earth.

1 Corinthians 11:7a For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, since he is the <u>image</u> and <u>glory</u> of God.

GIVEN DOMINION

The first thing God said about Adam and Eve after He created them was, "LET THEM HAVE DOMINION!"

Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have <u>dominion</u> over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

God gave Adam and Eve **ABSOLUTE AUTHORITY AND DOMINION TO RULE ON THIS EARTH**.

GIVEN POWER TO CREATE

Just as God's power created the universe, Adam and Eve were given the **POWER TO IMAGINE, BELIEVE, AND CREATE.**

Since their wills were one with God, there was no danger of the creative life of God within them being misused for wrongful purposes. All of God's creation on this earth was complete and perfect and they were instructed to multiply that which had already been created perfect.

Genesis 1:28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

HAVING PERFECT FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD

When God created Adam and Eve, they had **PERFECT FELLOWSHIP WITH HIM**.

He talked to them <u>face to face</u>. They could <u>boldly approach God</u>.

They had **no feelings of guilt, condemnation, or inferiority.** They had a perfect relationship with God.

God demonstrated His confident trust in Adam as He brought the animals to him so he could name them.

Genesis 2:19 Out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and **brought them to Adam** to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name.

GIVEN FREE WILL

God also gave Adam and Eve A CHOICE - A FREE WILL - a free volition.

They weren't created as robots without the **ability to choose <u>FOR</u> or <u>AGAINST God</u>**. They had the **ability to choose to <u>OBEY</u> or <u>DISOBEY</u>.**

This choice centered on **God's instructions** regarding one particular tree in the Garden of Eden, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God said if they ate of this tree, they would surely die.

Genesis 2:16,17 And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

ENTRANCE OF SIN – MANKIND'S FALL

The Scripture reveals how Adam and Eve chose to DISOBEY God. This was SIN.

Genesis 3:6

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

THROUGH SIN, ALL HUMANITY SUFFERED TREMENDOUS LOSS.

LOSS OF FELLOWSHIP

God in His perfect holiness and righteousness could no longer fellowship with Adam and Eve.

- THEIR SIN BECAME A BARRIER BETWEEN THEM AND GOD.
- THEIR **GUILT** AND **CONDEMNATION** CAUSED THEM TO <u>HIDE FROM GOD.</u>

Genesis 3:8 And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

They had lost their most precious possessions, their **relationship** and **perfect fellowship with God.**

LOSS OF THE LIFE OF GOD

- When Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit, they <u>died spiritually</u>.
- They no longer had the life of God within them.

Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.

Their spirits became spiritually dead. The breath of God's spirit, which God had breathed into Adam, was no longer there.

LOSS OF GOD'S GLORY

The GLORY OF GOD which was Adam and Eve's covering was **SUDDENLY GONE.**

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...

LOSS OF AUTHORITY

Adam and Eve LOST THEIR AUTHORITY AND DOMINION OVER THIS EARTH.

They surrendered it to Satan.

They were now living hopelessly subject to the one who had come to "steal, kill, and destroy."

- BECAME CORRUPTED
- THEIR THOUGHTS WERE NO LONGER GOD'S THOUGHTS.
- A CORRUPTED MIND (ungodly, deprived, evil, unrighteous, wicked),

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 Hence when we receive Jesus the Bible told us to go through the RENEWAL OF OUR MIND by the WORD OF GOD -- it takes systematic process to RENEW OUR IMAGE, and OUR MIND to be aligned with Christ.

JESUS CAME TO RESTORE ALL THAT WAS LOST

While SIN AND DEATH were the results of the rebellion of Adam and Eve....

It was only <u>through the coming of the JESUS as OUR SUBSTITUTE</u>.....we could be set free of these penalties.

Isaiah 53 gives us a wonderful picture of the coming Redeemer.

Isaiah 53:4-5 (NIV)

⁴ Surely he took up our pain

and bore our suffering,

yet we considered him punished by God,

stricken by him, and afflicted.

⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions,

he was crushed for our iniquities;

the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

Through the redemptive work of JESUS, all Adam and Eve had lost in the fall would be restored.

All of sudden.....LIFE becomes our Portion, no longer Death.

- HEALTH becomes our Portion
- BLESSINGS becomes our Portion
- FREEDOM becomes our Portion
- VICTORY becomes our Portion

Because Jesus had come to restore everything that the enemy has stolen from our life!!

Once again mankind could become all they were created to be. The new creation would be restored!

Here's how Jesus saved us from our Sins and Restore us --- by TAKING OUR PLACE!

2 Corinthians 5:21

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

- When Jesus died on the cross, God took the list of sins that you and I have committed and He transferred them over to Christ's account.
- God made Him who knew no sin, to be sin for us.
- God held Jesus accountable for our sins.

That is the gift God offers to us.....

- COMPLETE FORGIVENESS OF ALL OF OUR SINS.
- A BRAND NEW LIFE
- AND RESTORED RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN.

And with the NEW LIFE.....GOD HAS ALSO GIVEN YOU A POWER TO OVERCOME --THE POWER TO OVERCOME SIN, AND THE POWER TO DO GOD'S WILL.

Ezekiel 36:27 And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

God said that He would put His Holy Spirit inside of us in order to give us the ability to do His will.

The new creation comes by the new birth. Jesus said, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." (see John 3:3)

- Jesus wasn't talking about a physical new birth, but a spiritual new birth.
- Jesus said that we have to be 'born again' by the Holy Spirit.
- It is the Holy Spirit that brings the life of Jesus Christ into the dead soul of a believer.

I AM A NEW CREATION BECAUSE I HAVE BEEN BORN AGAIN BY GOD'S SPIRIT WHICH NOW ABIDES IN ME.

"FORGET THE CHICKEN!!"

Oh church if you only know that the SPIRIT OF GOD LIVES INSIDE OF YOU....

- We will stop living defeated and condemned.
- We will stop allowing fear and doubt overrule our life
- But we will declare a life of Freedom, Abundance, and Victory over our life!!

Are you learning something today....?!

Next week we're going to dive deeper and look that the **NEW CREATION RIGHTS.** As we've been made new, what blessings and rights.... belong to our portion. So that we can confidently claim and declare them upon our life.... Amen!!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

WHEN WE ARE MADE NEW, GOD HAS PROMISED A NEW LIFE WITH:

- NO MORE SHAME AND CONDEMNATION
- DIRECT ACCESS OF RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.
- POWER OVER SIN (Sin has no more bondage over us we can fight and overcome them)

IN WHICH ASPECT OF YOUR LIFE THAT YOU ARE GOING TO DECLARE AND EXERCISE GOD'S POWER AND AUTHORITY THAT HE HAS GIVEN YOU?