

New Creation

Wylie United Methodist Church
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – August 27, 2017

2 Cor 5:17-21

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. 21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Reconciliation (to restore to Divine favor) with God requires...

1. BEING IN CHRIST

2 Cor 5:17

... if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; ...

In other words,

to be outside of Christ, is to NOT be restored to Divine favor.

Reconciliation with God requires...

2. TRANSFORMATION THROUGH CHRIST

2 Cor 5:17-18

17 ... if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ...

Rom 12:2

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed...

John 3:3

In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."

Reconciliation with God requires...

3. US TO SHARE IT

2 Cor 5:18-20

18 ... [God] gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 ... And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us...

1 Peter 3:15

... Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have...