

New Life in Jesus Christ

Romans 6:4-Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. (KJV)

Individuals choosing to experience Holy Baptism enter into a new life in Jesus Christ. The believer is expected to be faithful to Christ in this new life until earthly departure. The Heavenly Kingdom and eternal life are the ultimate goals for the new believer. The narrow path to the Heavenly Kingdom is to be followed throughout earthly life. Repentance, Confession and Communion provide for renewal of the life in Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:17-Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new. (KJV)

The ways of sin and life contrary to the teachings of Christ are put behind at Baptism. Choosing to follow Jesus Christ as King and as God is a free and conscious decision. Remaining faithful to Jesus Christ requires deliberate decisions throughout earthly life. Believers need the nourishment, wisdom and teachings of Christ to remain faithful. The journey to the Heavenly Kingdom and eternal life is filled with many challenges.

Galatians 6:15-For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature. (KJV)^s

The person living in Christ embraces Christ's ways in thought, word and behavior. When sin overcomes the believer, the serious and faithful believer is quick to repent. Sincere repentance leads to forgiveness by Jesus Christ and renewal in daily life. The repenting believer undergoes a newness deep within the heart, mind and soul. Outward changes in the believer are noticeable when sincere repentance takes place.

Ephesians 4:24-And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. (KJV)

Men and women who regularly repent experience newness and growth in Jesus Christ. Christian virtues become a normal and regular part of the faithful follower's daily life. Every person commits sins but repentance and renewal in Christ are always possible. Believers desiring to be faithful to Christ need never lose hope and give in to despair. Jesus Christ is ever-present to help the believer sincerely desiring to be renewed in life.

Colossians 3:10-And having put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him. (KJV)

Desiring to conform life to the way of the Lord Jesus Christ is beneficial for believers. Conforming to the ways of Jesus Christ fills the believer's life with abundant joy. Believers are renewed when nourished by the Gospel and Christ's Body and Blood. The Divine services of God's Holy Church serve as constant sources of renewal. Being active in the life in Jesus Christ results in renewal throughout earthly life.

Holy Martyrs Thyrsus, Leucius, Philemon and Those with them.

December 14/27, 2023. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania.

Father Rodney Torbic