

March 18, 2018

1 Peter 2:1-12

## New Life in Christ

The word “new” is overused in our modern world. Most products advertised on TV or the Internet are “new” and “improved.” Often the only new thing is the word “new” printed on the package. “New” is used so often today that it is almost meaningless.

The Bible says those who belong to Jesus Christ are **new** creatures (**2 Cor. 5:17**). We are born again to **new** life in Christ. Think for a moment – what is new and different about you since you became a Christian? Write some of those things in the space below.

Chapter 1 of 1 Peter was about salvation. In chapter 2, Peter tells us about things that should be different because we are saved. In this lesson you will learn that as Christians we have new **desires**, new **relationships** with Jesus Christ and with His people, and new **guidelines** to follow in our behavior.

**1 Pet. 2:1** The word **wherefore** ties this verse back to the previous chapter. Because we have been born again (**1 Pet. 1:23**), what should we lay aside?

**1 Pet. 2:2** What should we desire?  
What is the result of receiving it?

**1 Pet. 2:3** If you are saved, what have you tasted?

Have you ever been around a baby? When babies get hungry they let everyone know about it! Nothing will satisfy a hungry baby but pure, wholesome milk. Christians should have that kind of desire for God’s Word. Just as milk causes babies to grow, the Bible causes Christians to grow and mature.

**1 Pet. 2:4** **Whom** refers to Jesus. How is He described?

Important ancient buildings were built of stone blocks, which were cut out of a quarry and then transported to the building site. If a stone was flawed or was not square the builders would **disallow** it (reject it as unsuitable for use).

**1 Pet. 2:5** “Ye also, as \_\_\_\_\_ stones, are built up a spiritual \_\_\_\_\_, an holy \_\_\_\_\_, to offer up spiritual \_\_\_\_\_, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.”

**1 Pet. 2:6** This verse is quoted directly from **Isaiah 28:16**. Who do you think is the chief corner stone?

What will happen to those who believe in Him?

**1 Pet. 2:7** How do believers view Christ?

Foolish men may reject Jesus Christ, but God has made Him “*the head of the corner.*”

**1 Pet. 2:8** In contrast, what does Christ become to those who are disobedient?

Because of salvation, believers have a new relationship with Jesus Christ. He is precious to us, but He is rejected by most people.

**1 Pet. 2:9** “But ye are a \_\_\_\_\_ generation, a royal \_\_\_\_\_, an \_\_\_\_\_ nation, a \_\_\_\_\_ people.” What should we show to a watching world?

**1 Pet. 2:10** In time past we were \_\_\_\_\_.

What has changed?

What have we obtained?

**1 Pet. 2:11** “Dearly \_\_\_\_\_, I beseech you ....” Peter spoke to his readers (and to us) much like a loving father, who would put his arm around his son, lean down close to his ear, and whisper some important instructions. What must we abstain from?

Why?

**1 Pet. 2:12** Remember that the word **conversation** refers to our behavior. How should we behave?

What will such behavior cause unbelievers to do?

**Concluding Thoughts:** Those who have experienced new life in Christ have **new desires** – they want to lay aside evil behavior and they have an intense, urgent desire for the Bible. They have a **new relationship with Jesus** – He is precious to them but rejected by the world. They have a **new relationship with other believers** – they are the people of God. Finally, believers have **new guidelines for living** – they must abstain from fleshly lusts and be honest.

Do those new things describe your life? Do you have new desires, new relationships, and follow new guidelines for living?

If not, it may be because you have never truly been born again. If you are willing to turn away from your sin and turn your life over to Jesus Christ, you can experience genuine salvation today.

Read the verses printed on the back of this book, confess your sins, and ask Jesus to save you. Soon you will notice newness in your life.

If you are already a Christian but realize you're falling short in one of these areas, confess your sin and recommit yourself to the Lord.

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**Project:** Memorize **1 Peter 2:9**. Read the Bible every day so you can continue to grow in grace. Lay aside evil and dishonesty. Enjoy your new relationship with your precious Lord. Get involved in your church so you can bring praise to Jesus.