

# *All Things New*

*Posted by Dr. Gary H. Cote on February 16, 2004*

The Bible reveals that “in Christ” all things are made new. God the Creator of all things is making all things new through Christ, for Christ, by Christ, and in Christ. Christ is the embodiment of the new creation. Even nature, God’s creation, continually reveals the intent of God—out of that which appears dead shall spring forth life.

If you never saw Spring time, never heard, saw, learned or knew of the life that springs forth after winter, then the Fall time could make one very fearful. One would be quite bewildered as they saw the cold air setting in, the shortened days, the dark nights extending their stay, the leaves falling, the flowers withering, and the grass browning, surely the end of life is upon us when one witnesses these events. However, a few months pass and newness of life sprouts. The cycle continues year in and year out and mankind merely adjusts, teaching the next generation of the cycle, but failing to see the message of God.

As nature illustrates, our lives are also withering each day; the old overtakes us, and the body fades quickly, as one asks himself and mutters to others who will listen, “where has the time gone?” “Once we were young, now we are old!” “Is this the end of me, or is there another age?” My friend, there is another age that is now dawning and will one day be fully revealed. The Bible reveals the new age to come is for those who love God and look for His appearing. Christ plainly declared that we must be “born-again.” He made this statement to a “most holy man,” a religious man, a righteous man by human standards, but still that man needed to be born-again by the Seed called Christ—the Word of God.

I use to think that this born-again stuff was merely a religious category for those who took this Jesus thing a bit too far. How shallow and deaf to the message of God. I now know, by God’s grace, that this is an event that begins that new creation experience in our lives; out of the dead existence one experiences Christ in our hearts and our lives begin to take on the character and concerns of God from whom we received eternal life.

The Bible reveals that the new age coming contains a New Jerusalem, a New Heaven, a New Earth, and it can all be inherited by the one who receives a New Heart. A heart that loves God! The Bible reveals “the old has passed, the new has come!” We were once dead in sin, but now we are alive in Christ! The Bible calls it the old man and the new man.

All things new means that all we now see, know, live in and for, will one day pass away. Just as one looks upon a casket and declares he has passed away, so this current world we strive to succeed in, will one day pass away—dead. Our only hope is Christ who saves us from sin and from death. If we expend our lives to live for this world, when it passes, what do we have? Nothing! No one takes anything with them; so simplistic yet so true. Therefore, we all must look beyond this world and to the world and age that is coming. Not some mystical event conjured up in the mind of man to soothe his soul, rather, the truthful message revealed in Word and in Deed

in Christ Jesus. He is the One who came to mankind so mankind can come to God as Father and Friend. All this by believing in Christ, that is, saying “yes” to God.

To belong to Christ is to be known by God. To live for God is to reject the friendship of this world. The believer lives in the world but is not of the world. The world is not your friend! The believer does not desire to be welcomed by its foolishness or its frivolity, nor deal in its decadence. The believer does not seek to achieve recognition, reputation or reward that the world offers. Rather, we seek to know God and to make Him known! The believer seeks and desires to operate in this world with integrity and excellence, manifesting Christ-likeness wherever and whenever able with the ultimate focus fixed on the kingdom that is coming. Jesus said, “My Kingdom is not of this world!” and neither is ours; He alone is our King.

May the Lord grant all wisdom and grace to receive this message and live out its purpose!