



I. WAYS TO DEVELOP NEW PERSPECTIVE IN MY LIFE – 2:1-21

- 1. See my relationship with God differently – it is about love rather than law (v.1-5)**
- 2. See people differently – focusing on inner character rather than outward appearance (v.6-10)**
- 3. See prejudice differently – it must be confronted rather than tolerated (v.11-14)**
- 4. See myself differently – I am a new person in Christ (v.15-21)**

Anyone who belongs to Christ is a new person. The past is forgotten, and everything is new. God has done it all! He sent Christ to make peace between himself and us, and he has given us the work of making peace between himself and others.

2 Corinthians 5:16-17 (CEV)

Grace binds you with far stronger cords than the cords of duty or obligation can bind you. Grace is free, but when once you take it, you are bound forever to the Giver and bound to catch the spirit of the Giver. Like produces like. Grace makes you gracious, the Giver makes you give.

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II. THE NEW FREEDOMS I ENJOY IN CHRIST—3:1-29

- 1. The freedom from the burden of feeling that I have to earn my salvation (v.1-9)**

Then the word of the LORD came to him: "This man will not be your heir, but a son coming from your own body will be your heir." He took him outside and said, "Look up at the heavens and count the stars—if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

Genesis 15:4-6 (NIV)

All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags...
Isaiah 64:4a (NIV)

As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one."
Romans 3:10a (NIV)

2. The freedom from the curse of the need for perfect obedience to the law (v.10-14)

- **The problem:**

O LORD, are you not from everlasting?...Your eyes are too pure to look on evil...you cannot tolerate wrong.

Habakkuk 1:12a-13a (NIV)

All of us have sinned and fallen short of God's glory.
Romans 3:23 (CEV)

It is your evil that has separated you from your God. Your sins cause him to turn away from you, so he does not hear you.

Isaiah 59:2 (NCV)

- **The solution:**

All of us have sinned and fallen short of God's glory. But God treats us much better than we deserve, and because of Christ Jesus, he freely accepts us and sets us free from our sins. God sent Christ to be our sacrifice. Christ offered his life's blood, so that by faith in him we could come to God. And God did this to show that in the past he was right to be patient and forgive sinners. This also shows that God is right when he accepts people who have faith in Jesus.

Romans 3:23-36 (CEV)

This is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the payment for our sins.

1 John 4:10 (GOD'S WORD)

3. The freedom to have a different kind of relationship with God (v.15-29)