



**2 CORINTHIANS 5:17 NKJV** – (17) Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

This is one of the most misinterpreted scriptures in the bible! This scripture does not mean you are free from sin. Knowing this, the question becomes, *"What about the Christian who continues to sin?"* There is a difference between continuing to sin and continuing to live in sin. No one reaches <u>sinless perfection</u> in this life, but the <u>redeemed Christian</u> is being sanctified (made holy) day by day, sinning less and hating sin more each time he or she fails. Yes, we still sin, but unwillingly and less and less frequently as we mature.

Our new self, hates the sin that still has a hold on us. The difference is that, the redeemed Christian in their new creation is <u>no longer a slave to sin</u>, as in the former self. The redeemed Christian is freed from sin and it no longer holds its power (<u>Romans 6:6-7</u>). Now, empowered by and for righteousness, there exists the choice to "let sin reign" or to be "dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus" (<u>Romans 6:11-12</u>). Best of all, now there is a power to choose the latter.

Therefore we, the church, must be aware that there are those in the church (Remember we are the church), who are deliberately sinning or living worldly lives at their finest, judging others, saying "It's fine" or "I 'm not there yet" as an excuse. <u>This verse applies only to the saved!</u> Those who have truly accepted Christ will experience sanctification! And they will not or cannot be satisfied with being thy "old self!"

My brothers and sisters of the faith, do not allow a worldly person to "<u>**TRANSFORM**</u>" you to their way of life. You and I know there is power in the word of God! Through his followers, Satan will try to conform you to his standards, rather than the standards of God. Make up your mind this day, who you will FOLLOW!

## SCRIPTURE READING

2 PETER 3:7-13

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The new creation is a wondrous thing, formed in the mind of God and created by His power and for His.glory.