

HAPPY NEW YOU

Part 2



**OUR DAILY BREAD**

Junior Edition

I-13-08



## **SOMETHING YOU MUST KNOW:**

God is perfect. He is Holy. We are all sinners. *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.*

(Romans 3:23a KJB)

None of us could ever make ourselves perfect or holy to be accepted by God. But God loves us all so much, that He gave His only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to go to the cross and pay the penalty for our sins IN FULL, ONCE and FOR ALL. Jesus died and rose again. Because of the Lord Jesus Christ, God can now make us holy and acceptable to Himself. *For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.* (1 Peter 3:18 KJB)

Jesus Christ is our ONLY WAY to God and heaven.

*Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

(John 14:6 KJB)

*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.* (Acts 16:31 KJB)

Without Jesus Christ, you can NEVER be accepted by God or go to heaven. When you believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior, God makes you His child. When you leave this world, you will spend all of eternity with Him! *But as many as received him to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.* (John 1:12 KJB) While you are still here on earth, learn His beautiful Word. Believe it and obey it, so you can enjoy all God has done for you.

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom.*

(Colossians 3:16a KJB)

Sometimes writers & teachers use illustrations or examples to help us PICTURE in our mind some point or idea that the writer or teacher wants us to understand.



Today we will use an example that will help us make a certain PICTURE in our minds. That PICTURE in our minds will then help us UNDERSTAND something VERY IMPORTANT about God's plan and purpose for us when we become His child.

Do you remember what we learned in the lesson called HAPPY NEW YOU pt 1? We learned that the VERY INSTANT you simply believe in Jesus as your Savior, God does some NEW THINGS for you & in you. (Get that part 1 lesson from 12-30-07 if you need to review.) Here are just SOME of the NEW THINGS God does for you the instant you believe in Jesus. God forgives you of ALL your sins. God gives you NEW SPIRITUAL LIFE as His child forever. Jesus Christ comes to live inside you by His Spirit. God makes you a NEW CREATURE - a NEW MAN. That NEW PART of you is INSIDE YOU! You CANNOT see it with your eyes. The NEW MAN is PERFECTLY HOLY! We CANNOT even explain how God does it all. But God DOES IT! He SAYS SO! So we simply BELIEVE GOD that He creates something NEW in us which changes us ON THE INSIDE! Here are 2 REVIEW scriptures that tell us this wonderful news:

"Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, he is a new creature, old things are passed away; Behold all things are become new."

2Corinthians 5:17KJB

“And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.”  
Ephesians 4:24 KJB

WOW! Imagine that! The instant we accept Jesus as our Savior, God makes us NEW FOREVER! He changes us from being His enemy, a sinner who is condemned to the Lake of Fire to being His new perfect & holy child - completely forgiven & SAVED forever from that Lake of Fire! See Col 1:21; Ro 5:10 And on top of all that, God promises ALL His children, that He will take care of them FOREVER! He promises ALL His children that they will ALL go to heaven to live with Him there forever someday. Now if YOU have accepted Jesus as your Savior, knowing all this sure should make you HAPPY!

That's why we named these 2 lessons



## HAPPY NEW YOU!

Now as we said, God does all this on the **INSIDE OF YOU!** No one can see any of these changes on the inside of you. Only **GOD** sees them on the inside of you. But as we learned in part 1, God's purpose is to let this **NEW MAN** which is **CHRIST IN YOU** who **NEVER SINS** & is **PERFECTLY HOLY** show on the **OUTSIDE** of you too!

“For whom he (God) did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.”  
Romans 8:29 KJB

(Oh boy, God sure does have lots of work to do on some of us! That's why I LOVE this next scripture that promises this:

“Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ:”  
Philippians 1:6 KJB

So we see then that God PROMISES to keep on working in our lives to make us more & more like Jesus, who is on the INSIDE OF US, in ways that can be seen on the OUTSIDE of us! Well, to help us understand all this, we are going to use a little ILLUSTRATION to help us PICTURE God’s work in us to shape how we act in our outward behavior - our human bodies - to be more & more like Jesus who lives IN our souls by His Spirit. Here go!

Imagine that you are in a COMPLETELY DARK ROOM. You are not able to see one single thing! But suppose that all of a sudden, a BRIGHT WHITE LIGHT BULB is brought in all lit up! WOW, you sure can see THAT very clearly!



However, suppose that BRIGHT WHITE light bulb is covered completely with MUD. Would you be able to see its’ light then? Of course not!

Now suppose that someone starts to clean the mud off that light bulb just a little tiny bit at a time. What would happen? Well, little by little, you’ll be able to see that BRIGHT LIGHT come shining through. At first you’ll only see tiny specks here & there; but the more mud that is removed, the more of the light from the bulb you will be able to see until finally when all the mud is taken off, you’ll see that



ENTIRE  
BRIGHT WHITE LIGHT BULB!

So how will PICTURING that ILLUSTRATION help us to understand how God works in us to let the life of Jesus on the INSIDE of us show through to others on the OUTSIDE of us?

Well, do you also remember our Christmas lesson from 12-23-07? In that lesson, we learned something very important about WHO Jesus Christ IS!

We learned that Jesus is  
**THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!**

LIGHT speaks of God's PERFECT HOLINESS! Darkness speaks of sin. We learned that when Jesus Christ came to this earth 2000 years ago, He not only came to DIE on the cross to SAVE us, Jesus also came to SHOW US what God is like! What is God like? He is HOLY & RIGHT & PERFECT GOODNESS & LOVE! We learned that without Jesus, no one could ever know God or know what God is like. 1Cor 2:14KJB In other words, without Jesus, we would be IN DARKNESS concerning God. And in the DARKNESS, we CANNOT SEE ANYTHING! In fact, because of sin, this world is in darkness concerning God. But JESUS came into the world to take that DARKNESS AWAY! Jesus is the LIGHT that reveals God to us! We learned that only Jesus can do that because Jesus IS God! And once we accept Jesus as our Savior, He comes to LIVE INSIDE US! He is the LIGHT who reveals God; & HIS

LIGHT is IN US the very instant we believe in Him!  
Here is one scripture that tells us this is so:

“For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.” 2Cor 4:6 KJB

In fact, the very instant we accept Jesus as our Savior, God says that we are CHILDREN OF LIGHT. Children of GOD! There is something inside us that is LIGHT! It is PERFECT, HOLY, RIGHT, GOOD. It cannot sin! It is Jesus the LIGHT IN US!

“Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.” 1Thessalonians 5:5 KJB

But, here is the problem - our problem, not God’s problem because God has NO problems! In fact, God will work ALL OUR LIVES to “fix” this problem for us! Read Philippians 1:6. Here is where you need to do some PICTURING using the MUD-COVERED LIGHT BULB to help you understand.

Let’s think of Jesus as the BRIGHT WHITE LIGHT like that light bulb. Now remember we said that the light bulb had been covered in

MUD!



And in that DARK ROOM, the MUD prevents us

from seeing the beautiful LIGHT of the bulb!  
Well, let's pretend that the DARK ROOM of our illustration is the DARK WORLD of sin that does NOT know anything about God. And of course, if we are alive, we live in this DARK WORLD of sin. Then when we believe in Jesus Christ as our Savior, God gives us this beautiful NEWNESS OF LIFE inside us. He gives us the BRIGHT LIGHT - the holiness & goodness - of Jesus Christ to be inside us - SHINING INSIDE US! And God wants that LIGHT OF CHRIST to shine OUTSIDE OF US TOO! He wants the GOODNESS & HOLINESS & RIGHTEOUSNESS of Christ to be seen by others through us! Let's keep PICTURING NOW! So CONCENTRATE!

So far, we've said that the WORLD is the DARK ROOM in our illustration & JESUS is the BRIGHT WHITE LIGHT in our illustration! So what is left? The MUD that COVERS that BRIGHT WHITE LIGHT! Can you guess what the MUD is that COVERS the LIGHT of JESUS inside us?



It is our HUMAN BODIES our FLESH!

“Oh”, you must be saying, “my body is NOT muddy!” Well, remember, we are just PRETENDING! But still, look at Genesis 2:7KJB! “And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life: and man became a living soul.”

You see, our HUMAN BODIES & our HUMAN



MINDS do NOT naturally know what God is like. We do NOT naturally want to do what God says. And in fact, without Jesus, we would NEVER be able to know or to do what God wants us to do! So when our HUMAN BODIES do things our own way, they are like the MUD hiding the light from that bulb.

But when Jesus comes to live inside us, God makes us TOTALLY CLEAN on the INSIDE. He TOTALLY FORGIVES US & MAKES US PERFECT ON THE INSIDE! He makes us HOLY & NEW on the INSIDE FOREVER! Jesus is there! The bible says Jesus is the TREASURE inside our earthen vessels - our bodies that have the elements of the earth in them! See 2Cor 4:7KJB But on the OUTSIDE, our bodies that do NOT like to obey God in the way we THINK, SPEAK & ACT - needs some CLEANING UP! All our OWN WAYS OF THINKING & SPEAKING & ACTING are like GLOBS OF MUD that prevent the beautiful light of Jesus from shining through us into that dark world out there.

So God begins to WORK IN & ON US like a great SCULPTOR Who little by little cleans off that mud on the outside. His Word & His Spirit & His Fatherly discipline are His cleaning tools! As we learn God's Word with the heart to obey Him, His Spirit will help us DO what His Word tells us. As we say YES to God & NO to our own old ways of wanting to do things, we'll be living in that NEW LIFE that God has given us on the INSIDE of us! And as we do this, God chips more of our MUD away on the outside of us so that Jesus' LIGHT will show through us to others out in that dark world of sin! Read Ro 6:1-4; Eph chapters 4-6; Acts 26:18; Matt 5:19. And when Jesus'



# GRACE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Pastor John A. Ricci

## Sunday Morning Service

10:00 A.M.

Sunday Transportation Service ~ Call 24 hours Prior

## Weekly Services

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:30 P.M.

## Prayer Meeting

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:00-7:20 P.M.

## Communion Service

First Sunday of Every Month

## Children's Prep School (Ages 5-14) & Mother's Room

Available for Every Service

## Email

info@gracecfellowship.org

## Directions

### From I-95

- RI Exit #22; *Left* at split to **Rt. 6 W.**
- Take Killingly St (Rt. 128) Exit; *Right* off Exit.
- Take Killingly to end; *Right* on Manton Ave; cross bridge.
- Turn *Left* at light (CVS on corner), and then bear *Left* at the split. You are now on Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1 mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Left*.

### From Rt. 146

- Mineral Spring Ave Exit in Providence.
- From **146 N** turn *Left* off Exit; from **146 S** turn *Right*.
- Take Mineral Spring to end and stay *Left* around the rotary (pass North Providence Town Hall).
- Take next *Right* onto Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1½ mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Right*.



## Grace Christian Fellowship

232 Woonasquatucket Avenue, North Providence, RI 02911  
Tel 401.233.9671 • Fax 401.223.1292 • [www.GraceCFellowship.org](http://www.GraceCFellowship.org)