

God to grow up into the very image of Christ.

Ephesians 4:11

11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, (all preach the Word of God) 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying (building or growing) of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

It is God's plan for us to grow up into the perfect man: God's son, Jesus Christ. When we grow we begin to show Him to the World. Christ's church, His disciples, begin to reveal the very character or nature of Christ Himself. This is God's great plan for all those who, through the new birth, have been born of Christ, the Word of God and as a result **placed or positioned in Him.**

2 Corinthians 5:17

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Colossians 1:13

13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

1 Corinthians 15:53

53 For this corruptible must put on

incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

Scripture tells us that through the new birth we are positioned into Christ. We, our spirit man, is taken out of the kingdom of darkness and placed in the kingdom of God. Our old man has been crucified, positioned or baptised into Christ's death and our new man has been raised up to share in His resurrection, His victory over sin and the grave. According to scripture, our new man (*scripture calls the born again spirit man the new man*) has been raised to sit with Christ in victory, in heavenly places.

Ephesians 2:6

6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

Being born anew we have become clothed in Christ, in His immortality, His character, His holiness and in His rule and reign.

Romans 5:17

17 For if by the one man's offense (Adam's sin) death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

Colossians 3:9-10

9 Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, 10 and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge

according to the image of Him (Christ) who created him, (the new man)

The new man must grow up into the knowledge of this new spiritual reality. The reality of being born again, created according to the very image of Christ. The born again believer, must now put on this truth. He or she must live from this new position, this new reality. Scripture calls this putting on Christ. In practical terms this happens as we walk in the Spirit: obey the Spirit of God. When we choose to walk in the Spirit and live by the new man, we automatically say no to the old man. By obeying the Spirit of God we reckon the old man, rebellion and pride, positioned in death or crucified in Christ. And the new man continues to be positioned in life. Through this obedience we continue to be clothed in Christ, we put on Christ, His truth, His life and His resurrection power. This all happens automatically as we walk in the Spirit. By obeying the Spirit of Christ we walk in the light. We live by and therefore in the light, the light that is the truth, the truth that is Christ.

Galatians 3:27

27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Ephesians 4:24

24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

Romans 13:14

14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh (the old man), to fulfill its lusts.

It is up to the new believer to walk in the light, to walk in Christ, to walk in the Spirit. To continue to be clothed in Christ, through daily obedience to the Word of Christ. Read the Bible, the Word of God and daily obey the Spirit of Christ. If you do this, after being born again, your spirit man will continue to grow up into an ever increasing maturing revelation of Christ. Your old man will continue to be positioned in Christ's death and your new man will continue to be positioned in His resurrection life, power and victory over sin. You will, with the rest of His church, all those who are doing the same, manifest an ever increasing revelation of Christ to the world.

1 John 4:17

17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world.

Proverbs 4:18

18 But the path of the just is like the shining sun, That shines ever brighter unto the perfect day.