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THE BIBLE VIEW

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New Things

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Living a biblical lifestyle is certainly the old way; the way much of mankind has lived for over 6,000 years. Living that way may be "old-fashioned" today, but many new things can happen in one's life when one obeys and lives biblically.

Here are some of the new things God offers and desires all to have and experience:

A new birth. When one becomes a child of God, he experiences a spiritual birth. One becomes a new, different person.
"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:3
"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever." I Peter 1:23
"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." II Corinthians 5:17

A new joy, happiness, and purpose. Being born again is wonderful. When one is saved, one will experience joy and happiness.
"O sing unto the LORD a new song: sing unto the LORD, all the earth. Sing unto the LORD, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people. For the LORD is great, and greatly to be praised: he is to be feared above all gods." Psalm 96:1-3
"And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD." Psalm 40:3 Also: Psalm 98:1.

A new "heart." God gives, along with salvation, a new "heart" that has new desires, purposes, and hopes.
"Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel. And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh: That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God." Ezekiel 11: 17-20 These verses were written about the people of Israel, but the principle can be applied to us.
"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh." Ezekiel 36:26

A new outlook; life is seen differently. When one is saved, educated from the Word of God, and obedient to it, life looks a lot different. Activities and actions of the past now may appear contrary to God's commandments and harmful rather than "fun". The "old, dead" Bible now

becomes alive and helpful.
"Thou hast heard, see all this; and will not ye declare it? I have shewed thee new things from this time, even hidden things, and thou didst not know them." Isaiah 46: 6

A new life (a new mind). Along with other new blessings comes the "mind of Christ" that thinks much differently than it did before the new birth.
"That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil." Ephesians 4:22-27
"And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:" Colossians 3:10

A new day filled with second chances and other opportunities. Just as a new day brings fresh opportunities and expectations, God gives the born-again soul a second chance in life.
"It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23

A new testament; a new covenant. A "testament" is a document declaring the will and desires of a person. The New Testament that God gave man is not only part of the Bible, but it is His will and the new covenant (commitments or promises) He made with man. It tells of God's will for man in this church age.
"And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." Mat. 26:27-28
"And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many." Mark 14: 24

A new world. One day God will destroy this world and a new one will descend.
"For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered." Isaiah 65:7
"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea." Revelation 21:1 Also: II Peter 3:3.

Things Will Be Different

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When one trusts Christ as Saviour it often appears to be a quiet, sober event. Sometimes, the person getting saved may shed tears of joy as they call out to God for salvation. A person sharing the moment with the one being saved may become excited, but there is always a lot more happening than anyone could ever observe.

Here are <u>some</u> of the events and changes that occur when a lost person gains God's promise of Heaven:

One is in Christ. A person is forgiven, and now has new priorities and a desire to please the Saviour.
"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after

the flesh, but after the Spirit." Romans 8:1 Also: Psalm 103:12, Mat. 26:28, Mat. 28:19-20, Mark 3:28, Rom. 4:7, I John 2:12.

One has their eternal destination changed. A person is not going to Hell, but to Heaven.
"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16

One has peace, that they never had before.
"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:7

One will be a changed person!
"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." II Corinthians 5:17

One has a new spiritual Father and a large spiritual family. Many biblical references when talking about God refer to Him as "your" or "our" Father.
"That ye may be the children of <u>your Father</u> which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust." Matthew 5:45
"For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother." Matthew 12:50

One can now pray and have prayers answered.
"I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry." Psalm 40:1

One's thinking will change. He will have the mind of Christ.
"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:" Philippians 2:5

Angels in Heaven rejoiced when one is saved:
"Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." Luke 15:10

One has their name written in the Lamb's Book of Life:
"And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." Rev. 20:15

"While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."
II Corinthians 4:18

Are You A Peculiar Person?

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"Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a <u>peculia</u>r people, zealous of good works." Titus 2:14

"Peculiar" is "beyond usual," If you claim you are a Christian, are you different than the unsaved or do you think, act, talk, and cherish the same things the unsaved do?

If you are born-again then:

- You should be "zealous of good works." (What God identifies as good works). Are you doing something for the cause of Christ?
- Are you a holy example:
  "*But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:"* I Peter 2:9

If you are "peculiar" then you are a "treasure unto the Lord as Jacob and Israel were. *"For the LORD hath chosen Jacob unto himself, and Israel for his peculiar treasure." Psalm 135:4*

"Don't look back to your past. If you are saved, you should not be going in that direction anymore!" — *Author Unknown*