**SELF-RENEWAL - 4**

***CHANGES WE MUST MAKE***

**EOHESIANS 5:8**

**INTRODUCTION -** We are studying the subject of the Christian and Self-renewal.  It is first, the idea of individual renewal and second, a process put into place to ensure continued and vibrant growth.  We have noted the importance of renewal in the life of the Christian which of necessity brings about change

We have noted that renewal begins with the mind. In other words our minds must be changed. To change our mind is to change our direction – **EPH. 5:8** – ***“for you were once darkness but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.”***

***EVERY CHRISTIAN HAS CHANGED/RENEWED HIS*** –

1. **RELATIONSHIP** –
   1. **2 COR. 5:17** – A Christian is a new creature in Christ. All things have become new.
   2. **EPH. 2:1-6** – We were dead but he made us alive.
   3. **EPH. 2:12-13** – We were without hope but that has also changed
2. **AFFECTION** –
   1. **COL. 3:1-3** – Our affections, our mindset, our priorities have all changed.
   2. **1 JN. 2:15-17** – When we struggle as Christians it often can be traced back to our problem of priorities. Do you still love the world then you need to change!
   3. **ROM**. **12:1-2** – Paul exhorts the Christians at Rome to not be conformed to this world in other words they needed to change.
3. **PURPOSE** –
   1. **ROM. 6:16-18** – We were once servants of sin onto death but we have changed and are now servants of obedience unto righteousness.
   2. **1 COR**. **10:31** – We now do everything to glorify God.
   3. **ISA. 43:7** – The prophet says that God formed us and made us for his glory. Does the life that you are living right now give glory to God?
4. **CITIZENSHIP** –
   1. **COL. 1:13-14** – When we are redeemed thru his blood and attain the forgiveness of sins God conveys us into the kingdom of the Son of his love. Where is your citizenship? Are you enjoying the benefits of citizenship?
   2. **PHIL. 3:20** – What did Paul say about the Christians at Philippi and their citizenship? A Christian’s citizenship is in heaven.
   3. **1 PET. 1:22-23** – Our citizenship changed when we purified our souls by obeying the truth.
5. **ASSOCIATIONS** –
   1. **1 PET. 4:3-4** – They think it strange that you do not run with them. When we become Christians we can no longer run with the wrong crowd.
   2. **1 COR**. **15:33** – Paul tells the Christians at Corinth in very plain language that eh people we associate with does make a difference – ***“Do not be deceived. Evil companions corrupt good habits (morals)”***
6. **DESTINY** –
   1. **MATT. 25:46** – Our eternal destiny is one of two places – everlasting punishment or eternal life. Note both are eternal.
   2. **2 COR. 5:1** – As a Christian our heavenly home is eternal.
   3. **REV. 14:13** – We can gain great comfort about our destiny if we are faithful.
   4. **REV. 21:8 –** If we are living a life of disobedience we need to change – TODAY!

**CONCLUSION** – We should be thankful that the gospel has the power to bring about change in our lives.

**1 PET. 2:9-10 - But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 10 who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy**