

Series: Isaiah

Title: Nature of the New Creation

Text: Isaiah 65: 24-25

Date: April 17, 2016

Place: SGBC, New Jersey

In Isaiah 65, we have seen how the Lord Jesus creates the new heavens and the new earth.

- It will be complete when the work is finished and we are with Christ in glory.
- But this is a work begun now in his people.

Let's review a little

I. FIRST, CHRIST CREATES HIS PEOPLE ANEW—Isaiah 65: 17: For, behold, I create a new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.

A. All God's elect were in Christ when Christ fulfilled the law and redeemed us from all iniquity.

B. Christ sent the Holy Spirit and regenerated us making us a new creation, creating a new man within us in righteousness and holiness in the image of Christ himself.

2 Cor 5: 17: Therefore if any man be **in Christ, he is a **new creature: old things are passed away;** behold, **all things are become new.** 18: **And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ,**..**

Gal 6: 15 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.

1. Our former troubles are forgotten by God—in Christ, we have:

- No more sin
- No more curse
- No more death

II. SECONDLY, BY CREATING US ANEW, CHRIST MADE US HIS, NEW JERUSALEM, WITH NEW JOY, WITH A NEW WAY OF WORSHIP—Isaiah 65: 18 But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. 19: And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying.

A. We are citizens of New Jerusalem, of heavenly Mt. Zion.

1. We no longer worship under the bondage of the old covenant law.

2. Now, we worship God in Spirit and in truth, rejoicing in what our victorious Redeemer has accomplished on our behalf.

B. Most, amazingly, God rejoices in his people because of what Christ has done in creating us anew.

C. Though we sorrow now, one day, all sorrow will be ended in glory with Christ.

III. THIRDLY, WE SAW THAT OUR FULLNESS IN THIS NEW CREATION IS CHRIST HIMSELF—Isaiah 65: 20: There shall be no more thence an infant of days, [who hath not fulfilled his days] nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die [as complete in Christ as if he lived to be] an hundred years old;

A. The thief on the cross was created anew only moments before he died physically—he died an infant of days—but he had all fullness in Christ the same as the believer who was created anew and lived a long life on earth-

1. Age has nothing to do with fulfilling our days—our fulfillment is finding all fullness in Christ and being complete in him—by his grace.

B. But the sinner, being an hundred years old—[who lives a long life without Christ] shall be accursed.

IV. NEXT, BY BEING MADE A NEW CREATION BY CHRIST, WE HAVE ALL SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS IN HIM. IT IS BECAUSE CHRIST FULFILLED THE LAW ON OUR BEHALF—HE ILLUSTRATES IT, USING EARTHLY THINGS—Isaiah 65: 21: And they shall build houses, and inhabit *them*; [Christ is our dwelling place and we shall forever

have our habitation in him] **and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of** [Christ is our Vine, who is made unto us—Wisdom, Righteousness, Sanctification and Redemption]. **22: They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat:** [Israel never enjoyed this as a result of failing to keep the law. But because Christ kept it for his people, now, our days are eternal as the days of Christ, who is the Tree of Life], **and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.** [the work of Christ’s hands is imputed to us because we were in Christ and his righteousness is now ours by grace, through faith.]

V. FIFTHLY, BY CHRIST MAKING US A NEW CREATION IRRESISTABLY, WE HAVE ASSURANCE OUR LABOR IN THE GOSPEL SHALL NOT BE IN VAIN—Isaiah 65: 23: They shall not labour in vain, [in spreading the gospel] nor bring forth for trouble; [“they will not bear children doomed to misfortune.”] for they *are* the seed of [Christ], the Blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them.

A. We and those born by our gospel are the children of Christ born of his incorruptible seed

- therefore we shall never perish
- And Christ shall never fail to call out his people through our gospel

TODAY, OUR SUBJECT: THE NATURE OF THE NEW CREATION

Divisions: I will give our divisions as we read the text

I. FIRST, BEING MADE NEW BY CHRIST, OUR NATURE IS MADE HOLY—WE SEE IT BY THE FREE ACCESS AND COMMUNION WE HAVE WITH GOD IN PRAYER—Isaiah 65: 24 And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

II. SECONDLY, BEING MADE NEW BY CHRIST, OUR NEW NATURE IS LOVE—Isaiah 65: 25: The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust *shall be* the serpent's meat.

III. LASTLY, BEING MADE NEW BY CHRIST, OUR NEW NATURE IS PEACE—Isaiah 65: 25...They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD.

Proposition: The nature of the new creation is the result of having Christ formed in our hearts so that all things are become new.

Note: This will be complete and perfect when we are with Christ in glory—but Christ has made this true in our inward man and in his church even now.

I. FIRST, BEING MADE NEW BY CHRIST, OUR NATURE IS MADE HOLY—WE SEE IT BY THE FREE ACCESS AND COMMUNION WE HAVE WITH GOD IN PRAYER—Isaiah 65: 24 And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

A. When Adam was first made, he was upright—holy and righteous—therefore he had communion with God in the garden.

1. He walked with God and talked with God.

2. But the moment sin entered in, Adam covered himself with fig leaves and hid from God in the trees.

App. Left in our corrupt sin-nature, we would not even call on God.

C. Therefore, God answers his chosen people, redeemed by Christ, before we ever call on him—

Isaiah 65: 24 And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer;

1. Christ answers by interceding with the Father.

2. The Father answers by sending the Holy Spirit.

3. The Holy Spirit answers by giving us life and convincing us of sin, righteousness and judgment.

• He strips us of our self-righteous fig leaves and makes us behold all we are is sin

- He makes us behold Christ is the Righteousness of God for his people
- He makes us behold our judgment is settled because Christ justified us from all our sins.

D. So seeing that it is God already working in us, to bring us to call on him for mercy, fact is, God has already answered us before as yet we call on him—
Isaiah 65: 24 **And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; [therefore, God says] while they are yet speaking, I will hear.**

Daniel 9: **20**: And **whiles I *was* speaking**, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God; **21** Yea, **whiles I *was* speaking** in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation....

Daniel 10: 12: Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from **the first day** that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, **thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words.**

E. Now, because Christ made us holy priests unto God, and having Christ as our High Priest, we have open, welcome access to the throne of God.

Heb 10: 19: Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; 21 And having an high priest over the house of God; 22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

1. Christ did away with all earthly mediators.

- No man is a vicar—we have one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus
- Christ alone is the High Priest over the house of God

2. All God's saints, from the least to the greatest are **“A Royal Priesthood”** (1 Pet. 2:9)

App. So, the Lord God encourages us to pray to him by showing us, in our text, the readiness of his heart to give us what we need in all our trouble.

II. SECONDLY, BEING MADE NEW BY CHRIST, OUR NEW NATURE IS LOVE—
Isaiah 65: 25: The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust *shall be* the serpent's meat.

A. This shows that a new nature is created within us: for these things to happen a new nature has to be given.

1. Our nature is treacherous like wolves and lions by our first birth in sin.

2. By the new birth, Christ creates a new nature within us, so that now the ravening wolf and raging lion and God's lambs are folded together in Christ, in peace and harmony, just as they did in Noah's ark.

Illustration: The apostle Paul was of the tribe of Benjamin—in his sin nature he was a ravenous wolf--

Gen 49: 27: Benjamin shall ravin as a wolf: in the morning he shall devour the prey, and at night he shall divide the spoil.

- **“In the morning”**—in his youth—in his corrupt nature, he was a fierce wolf and ravenous persecutor of the church of God—Acts 9:1: Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord,
- **“In the evening”**—Christ gave him a new nature so—Paul took the spoil from Satan as Christ turned men from the power of Satan unto God through Paul's preaching.
- **So the wolf and the lamb fed together.**

B. By giving us a new nature, Christ gives us each the same taste for Christ alone—Is 65: 25:...the lion shall eat straw like the bullock:

1. A lion will not eat straw like the bullock.
2. Only if God gives him a new nature.

3. When we were lions in our sin-nature we had no taste for Christ. But Christ gave us a new nature with new taste so all his people feed on the same heavenly Bread, Christ our Bread

Php 3: 3: For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.

C. Satan and the enemies of God shall cease feeding upon Christ's people—and dust shall be the serpent's meat.

1. When all we were was dust, we were the serpents meat. In fact, we fed upon dust—the earth, the world, the carnal.

2. But though Satan set up his gates and attempt to hold God's elect in bondage—the gates of hell shall not prevail against his church—

- Christ shall call out all his sheep.
- And leave Satan feeding only upon the dust which Christ gives him permission to feed upon.
- Ro 16:20 And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly.

III. LASTLY, BEING MADE NEW BY CHRIST, OUR NEW NATURE IS PEACE—
Isaiah 65: 25...They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD.

A. Christ is our Peace!

1. Christ made peace with God for all his people—reconciling us to God and working reconciliation in our own hearts.

Ro 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

2. With Christ our Peace in our hearts, believers have peace with one another.

Eph 2:15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;

Col 3: 10: And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: 11: Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.

Illustration: Isn't it good to come to this oasis in the desert where you do not have to act like somebody you are not! Where everyone is looking to Christ rather than to one another!

B. Now, with Christ as our eternal Refuge—our High Tower—our Fortress—no enemy of Christ shall hurt or destroy even one child of God—

Isaiah 35: 8: And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it *shall be* called The way of holiness; [Christ is the Way] the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err

therein. 9: No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there: 10: And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

B. Do you believe God's word? We have his word that no enemy shall prevail against God's church, his cause, his gospel, or his kingdom--They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD.

App. Believer, we possess all these things by Christ:

- 1) We are made a new creation.
- 2) We are new, spiritual Jerusalem.
- 3) We have new fullness complete in Christ
- 4) We have all spiritual blessings in Christ
- 5) We have new labor to further the gospel and promise of certain success
- 6) We have new holy nature and communion with God.
- 7) We have a new nature of love: to love Christ and our brethren
- 8) We have a new nature of peace

Illustration: If we were to die right now, in the blink of an eye, we would see we have possessed these things ever since Christ created us anew.

1 Cor 3: 21: Therefore let no man glory in men.
For all things are yours;...23: And ye are
Christ's; and Christ is God's.

Amen!