

**New Creation-There's no such thing. I don't feel it. I don't believe it. Where's the Proof?**  
**(I'm waiting until I Get to Heaven Because That's When Life Will Really Begin!)**  
**Text-2 Corinthians 5: 14-18; Romans 12: 1-2, Romans 8: 5-6**

QUESTION	MY ANSWER
What does it mean to create?	To produce, generate, design, make, fashion fabricate, manufacture, construct, build, mold, initiate, develop, establish, shape, form.
What is the meaning of the word "creation"?	The action or process that brings something into existence resulting in: (formulation, formation, genesis, origination, foundation, constitution, inception, establishment)
What are you creating/have you created both positive and negative?	Art, meals, campaigns, reports, relationships/family, plans, ideas, perspectives, plans, career, houses, (strife, difficulty, worry, confusion, fear, distrust, doubt, mess)
How do you feel about your creations?	I feel better about some vs. others. I feel like I'm getting smarter about what I create. I feel like others sabotage what I create. I'm not very creative. I'm not motivated to create. I haven't created very much. I'd rather not create.
When you create something unhealthy, unproductive or simply bad, how do you respond?	I'm fine with it, it's mine and I own it. I hate being in the middle of messiness. I'm overwhelmed because I can't get out of my own way. I seek assistance to "fix" the situation. "It's none of yours or anyone else's business how I respond." I don't what to do except keep doing what I usually do.
How do you know when you're in a negative situation of your own creation?	I don't. I don't care. I'm mostly numb to it now. I do things my own way and I'm ok with it. I'm always busy. I'm always busy, yet unproductive. I can't take a break from pressing matters. I don't have (don't want to have) time to spend with other people.
What is the fix for your messy personal negative creation? Does it resolve your messiness?	Take a vacation. Watching TV. Playing games. Social Media. Reading. Going to the gym. Exercise. Meditation, positive thinking. Writing in my journal. Eating. Focusing on something else.
Is there a way to remake your situation to make it a good/positive creation? If so, what is it and how do you implement it?	Adopt a completely different lifestyle. Abandon my present life and escape to something altogether different. Invent a time machine. Win the lottery. Develop amnesia. Nope, there is NO way. <b>Embrace values, attitudes and philosophies currently not my own.</b>
What is the source/origin of values and attitudes "not my own"?	Self-help books and gurus. Motivational speakers. Religious leaders. Religion. Philosophy. New-Age thinking. Life coaches. <b>The Bible</b>
What makes the Bible a distinguished and valuable resource/tool/weapon for people today?	It's God's Word. It's the truth. It's historical information. It's helpful in difficult circumstances. <b>It ultimately reveals the character of Yahweh God as especially realized in the person of Jesus the Christ.</b>
This Bible states that mankind is made in the image of Yahweh God. What does this really mean?	Humans have a triple or triune nature like Yahweh: The Father, Jesus, the Holy Spirit. Humans are composed of Body, Mind/(Soul) and Spirit. <b>Body</b> is the physical shell in which we live out our lives. <b>Mind/(Soul)</b> is the components of your personality: will, emotions, conscience, personality. <b>Spirit</b> is the part of humans that can't be accessed in a normal manner; you can't feel your spirit. Only Yahweh can access your spirit.
How does this image of God work and apply to me personally?	Your Body is what you see every day. It ages, needs make-up, requires clothing, gets tired, dies. Your Mind (Soul) is what makes decisions, gets frustrated, decides what's good and bad. Your Spirit is what gets renewed, restored, regenerated when your Soul is influenced by the Holy Spirit to admit our helpless condition, believe that Jesus died to remedy our condition and agree/announce this radical change of mind.
How does this explanation help me understand being a new creature/creation?	Because the body and mind/soul are not new creations; only the Spirit (See John 4). The Spirit communes with Yahweh via the Holy Spirit and has the ability to affect (renew) the Soul/Mind, if we engage in the directed decision-making
How can I feel like a new creation in this frail body in this fallen world with all the daily concerns, issues, bad things on top of my everyday challenges?	Feeling can be deceptive. It's more important to KNOW you're a new creation instead. Knowing involves looking at yourself through the lens of the Bible seeing Jesus and his attributes and applying that image to yourself. (Reference the Galatians 5:22-fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace forbearance, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.) The more of these, the more transformed you are becoming.

## **DISCOVERY-Let's read the passages- Text- 2 Corinthians 5: 14-18; Romans 12: 1-2, Romans 8: 5-6 (HCSB)**

*Consider these passages and their applications:*

**2 Corinthians 5: 14—For Christ's love compels us, since we have reached this conclusion: If One died for all, then all died.** Because Jesus was dedicated to what is best for mankind, Paul states that Jesus died for all and that, essentially, all are effectively dead and dead to themselves. *Not only is this a representation of the best definition for love but it presents a current day condition for all Believers. (And all humankind)*

**2 Corinthians 5: 15—And He died for all so that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for the One who died for them and was raised.** After expressing the current status adopted by Believers, Paul states that our purpose is no longer our own. It should belong to Jesus. *This is NOT a preferred way to think about MY life and its purpose. I am an adult. I am an American. I am under NO obligation to anyone else regardless of what anyone says.*

**2 Corinthians 5: 16—From now on, then, we do not know anyone in a purely human way. Even if we have known Christ in a purely human way, yet now we no longer know Him in this way.** When one apprehends that Jesus died for all, perspective, worldview is no longer the same. The world should be perceived from Yahweh's perspective using His Word and His Kingdom. People are not JUST people but spiritual possibilities. The superficial nature of our lives should be replaced by an Eternity-oriented world and life-view.

**2 Corinthians 5: 17-Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is anew creation; old things have passed away, and look, new things have come.** Effectively, Yahweh is creating a new race beginning with Jesus the 2<sup>nd</sup> Adam. And although we recognized Jesus as a man, we now view Him as Lord, Savior High Priest, and Eternal Creator. *It is truly inappropriate for Believers (and all mankind) to take Jesus for granted as a simple human or that He didn't really exist. He is, indeed, the most special entity ever.*

**2 Corinthians 5: 18-Everything is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.** Jesus has positioned us to assist in the reconciliation of the world to him. We should ideally operate and conduct ourselves as Kingdom ambassadors. *Present day Believers possess the ability to act as peacemakers for and in the world-at-large. We should be in the regular practice of reconciling people to Jesus.*

**Romans 12: 1-Therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your spiritual worship.** Because of the "death" described above, Believers are living dead people to their own agendas, purposes, drives and messiness. By connecting to the spiritual aspect of our beings, Yahweh is honored. When we're rightly "connected, the fruit of the Spirit is displayed in how we do, what we do to and with whom we do it.

**Romans 12: 2-Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.** Several paragraphs/chapters before detail the spirit-related applications that Believers should be adopting/practicing/internalizing. The questions are: how does transformation occur? How is the mind renewed? *Believers should be allowing themselves to be controlled by the Holy Spirit to live according to Yahweh's will rather than in lockstep with the insanity of this world. Transformation and renewal occur when Believers regularly read, understand, apply and embrace the content of the Bible to their daily lives.*

**Romans 8: 5-For those who live according to the flesh think about the things of the flesh, but those who think according to the Spirit, about the things of the Spirit.** Paul is essentially making a "harsh" statement that includes 4 parts: 1) Saying "I am a Believer" without the will to keep Yahweh's Law. 2) Jesus's Believers possess His Holy Spirit which spurs the desire to keep Yahweh's law. 3)The Spirit-filled Believer is eager to change from "my way" to Yahweh's way. And finally, 4) The true Believer **will** exhibit fruits of Yahweh's Spirit affirming their transformation. *These checkpoints can be used to measure/track our renewal and transformation awareness and where we exist on the Spirit spectrum.*

**Romans 8: 6-For the mindset of the flesh is death, but the mindset of the Spirit is life and peace.** Living life according to your own principles results in frustration, irritation, fatigue, depression, diminished participation in life among other symptoms. Submission to the Spirit leads to constant joy, refreshing and revitalization. *Life is good, successful and victorious in the here and now! It is unnecessary to wait for an afterlife to experience justification, glorification and sanctification. These are **always** available to the true Jesus Believer!*

### **Some considerations**

- Isn't this study just a different type of legalism?
- What if I feel this information is unimportant to me?
- How do I really live for and depend on Jesus?
- I'm ok with the way I live my life. Does this mean I should make changes?
- Justification, Sanctification, and Glorification. Big words. Big deal, right?

- What's the difference then between loving God with my heart, soul and strength vs heart, soul, mind and strength (**Deut 6:5** and **Mark 12: 30-31**)? Jewish-(heart-decision maker), (soul-spirit) (strength-with fervor and perseverance). Greek-heart (personality), (soul-spirit), (mind-intellect and intuitive thinking), (strength-with fervor and perseverance).
- *Carnally-minded = death (loneliness, busyness, worry, messiness); Spiritually-minded= life and peace*

**New Creation-There's no such thing. I don't feel it. I don't believe it. Where's the Proof?**

**(I'm waiting until I Get to Heaven Because That's When Life will Really Begin!)**

**Text-2 Corinthians 5: 14-18; Romans 12: 1-2, Romans 8: 5-6**

QUESTION	MY ANSWER
What does it mean to create?	
What is the meaning of the word "creation"?	
What are you creating/have you created both positive and negative?	
How do you feel about your creations?	
When you create something unhealthy, unproductive or simply bad, how do you respond?	
How do you know when you're in a negative situation of your own creation?	
What is the fix for your messy personal negative creation? Does it resolve your messiness?	
Is there a way to remake your situation to make it a good/positive creation? If so, what is it and how do you implement it?	
What is the source/origin of values and attitudes "not my own"?	
What makes the Bible a distinguished and valuable resource/tool/weapon for people today?	
This Bible states that mankind is made in the image of Yahweh God. What does this really mean?	
How does this image of God work and apply to me personally?	
How does this explanation help me understand being a new creature/creation?	
How can I feel like a new creation in this frail body in this fallen world with all the daily concerns, issues, bad things on top of my everyday challenges?	