

"NATURAL BORN SINNER"

New Me, Part 1
August 2nd, 2009

Christianity is unique among all religions because we have a savior

If you believe Christ is one of several legitimate ways to God, you also believe you don't need a savior

You probably also believe you are a good person who occasionally does bad things

Understanding The Difference Christ Can Make In Your Life – The "New Me"

1. You are a bad person who occasionally does good things

God says, and reality confirms, you are a sinner

If you are inherently good, be consistently good

Why can't you be consistently good? Because you are not good. You want to be.

You are a sinner because at the core of your nature, you were born a sinner

At times we run toward sin, even though we know it's wrong & bad – why? Because we want to

What is it inside me that drags me to what I know is wrong – it's sin, not a mistake

You have a fundamental problem, you don't want to admit. You were born a sinner. It comes naturally

Romans 5:6 (NIV) "You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly."

Romans 5:8 (NIV) "But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Romans 5:10 (NIV) "For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to Him through the death of His Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through His life!"

Romans 5:12 (NLT) "When Adam sinned, sin entered the entire human race. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned."

While it may not be fair through Adam's sin we have inherited a sin nature, but it's true

Romans 5:13,14 (NIV) "For before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law. Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come."

2. When you become a Christian there is a fundamental change in your nature, you are now "in Christ"

Because you are now “in Christ”, not only was the power of sin over your destiny changed, the power of sin over your will has been broken as well

Romans 5:15 (NIV) “But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!”

What Adam messed up with his one act, Jesus was able to undo & redo because He's the Son of God

Romans 5:16,17 (NLT) “And the result of God's gracious gift is very different from the result of that one man's sin. For Adam's sin led to condemnation, but we have the free gift of being accepted by God, even though we are guilty of many sins. The sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over us, but all who receive God's wonderful, gracious gift of righteousness will live in triumph over sin & death through this one man, Jesus Christ.”

Because as a Christian you are now “in Christ” a fundamental change has happened inside you; you are free from the ultimate penalty of sin and from the power of sin

You are not a good person who occasionally does wrong & needs to try harder; at your core you are a sinner who needs to be set free. That's why you need a savior

John 10:10 (NIV) “[Jesus said] The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”

What each of us must do is allow Christ to live His life through me because I'm in Him

Sin shall no longer be master over me; I've been set free. Christ is my master

My Next Step Today Is:

- I will spend time this week thinking about, “Am I a good person by nature who occasionally does wrong, or am I a sinner by nature who occasionally does right.”
- I will memorize Romans 5:6
- I plan to attend Ballroom Dancing beginning this Tuesday, Aug 4th
- I plan to attend the Grief Seminar on Sat, August 8th from 9 am to 12 noon