

"A growing Christian knows the gospel is rooted in God's redeeming grace and is sustained, secured and serves throughout life by His amazing grace."

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"A growing Christian is someone whose life is being reshaped by the Spirit of God as the mind is being renewed through the Word of God."

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I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind,

that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

—Romans 12:1-2 ESV

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This Renewal Creates Contrast and Contradiction to the Prevailing Mindset of the World

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And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ²in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—

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"For secularism, all life, every human value, every human activity must be understood in light of this present time... What matters is now and only now. All access to the above and the beyond is blocked. There is no exit from the confines of this present world."

—R.C. Sproul

"Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold, but let God re-mold your minds from within, so that you may prove in practice that the plan of God for you is good, meets all His demands and moves towards the goal of true maturity." —Romans 12:2 PHILLIPS

³among whom we all once

lived in the passions of our

flesh, carrying out the desires

of the body and the mind,

and were by nature children of

wrath, like the rest of mankind.

-Ephesians 2:1-3 ESV

¹⁷Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. ¹⁸They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart.

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¹⁹They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. ²⁰But that is not the way you learned Christ!—

²¹assuming that you have heard about Him and were taught in Him, as the truth is in Jesus, ²²to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, ²³and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds. —Ephesians 4:17-23 ESV

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"Here were a decent godless people: their only monument the asphalt road

and a thousand lost golf balls." —T.S. Eliot

This Renewal is Internal, not External

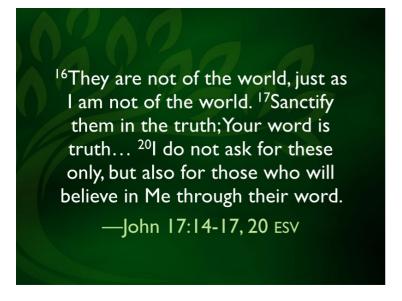
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"Sanctification is a process of revolutionary change in that which is the centre of

consciousness." — John Murray, NIC

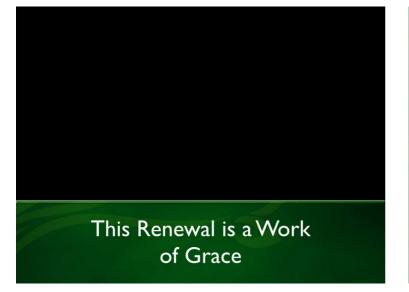
¹⁴I have given them Your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵I do not ask that You take them out of the world, but that You keep them from the evil one.

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"We know the will of God by the Word of God."

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⁵He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that being justified by His grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

—Titus 3:5-7 ESV

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"God salvages the individual by liquidating him and then raising him again to newness of life." —A.W. Tozer