

The significance of becoming a christian

We should ask ourselves ...

What did I allow someone to do to me?

What happened to me?

**What have I become and how am I
different from what I was?**

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What should I do in response?

I am a “person reborn”

- I am a “new creation” Rom 6:4-5

4Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. 5For if we have become united with *Him* in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be *in the likeness* of His resurrection,

- I am a “new creation” II Cor. 5:17

17Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

- ... by virtue of a “new birth” Jas. 1:18

18 In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the word of truth, so that we would be a kind of first fruits among His creatures.

- ... by virtue of a “new birth” I Pe. 1:23

**... you have been born again not of seed
which is perishable but imperishable, *that is*,
through the living and enduring word of God.**

- ... by virtue of a “new birth” Jn. 3:3-5

3 Jesus answered and said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

4 Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born, can he?” 5 Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

- ... by virtue of a “new birth” Tit. 3:5-7

5He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, 6whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to *the* hope of eternal life.

- ... embarking on a life of renewal II Cor. 4:16

16Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.

- ... embarking on a life of renewal Rom. 12:2

2And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

No “nibbling around the edges”

“God became man to turn creatures into sons: not simply to produce better men of the old kind but to produce a new kind of man. It is not like teaching a horse to jump better and better but like turning a horse into a winged creature.”

C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity, Book IV, ch. 10