Behold, I make all things new. (Rev 21:5)

Saint Mary's Coptic Orthodox Church Ottawa - Youth Meeting - Sept 2019



New Covenant

Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant

with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—
not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in
the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the
land of Egypt; because they did not continue in My covenant,
and I disregarded them, says the LORD.

For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD:

I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

OLD Covenant

- Given through Moses, the servant of God
- Ten commandments written on tablets of stone

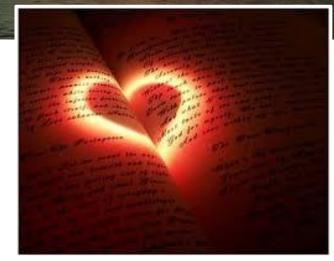




NEW Covenant

- Given through Jesus Christ, the Word of God
- The Lord's words written on tablets of flesh, our **hearts**

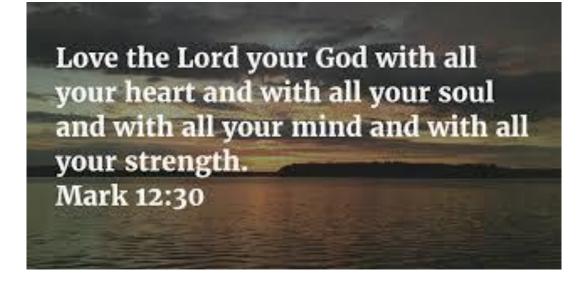
Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. Mark 12:30



New Covenant

I will put **My laws** in their **mind** and write them on their **hearts**; and I will be **their God**, and they shall be **My people**.

- Are the Lord's laws in my mind?
- Are they in my heart?
- Is the Lord my God?
- Are we His people?

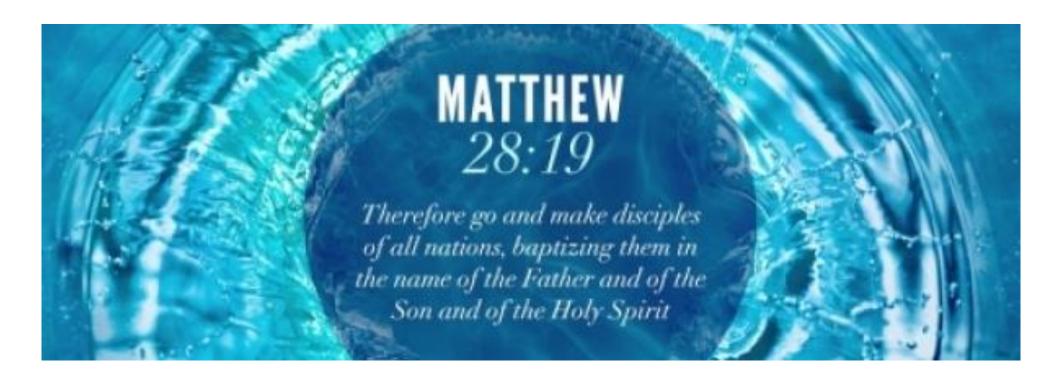


Therefore, if anyone is **in Christ**, he is a **new creation**; old things have passed away; behold, **all things have become new**.

-- 2 Corinthians 5:17

How?

- Old sinful nature was put to death ... buried with Christ through baptism
- New pure nature given ... risen a new creation through Christ in baptism



How?

- Old sinful nature was put to death ... buried with Christ through baptism
- New pure nature given ... risen a new creation through Christ in baptism

Is the old nature gone for good?

- Unfortunately not ... we must labour to keep the new nature
- If I live according to the flesh, I will perish (sinful nature comes back)
 - → living a sinful, carnal & earthly life
- If I live according to the spirit, I live (as a new creation) in the spirit
 - → living a righteous, spiritual & heavenly life

How to become a New Creation?

Sacrament of Baptism

How to <u>remain</u> a New Creation?

- Sacrament of Repentance & Confession
- Sacrament of Communion (regularly partaking of the Lord's Body & Blood, which is given for the remission of sins and eternal life to those who partake of Him)



Create in me a clean heart, oh God And renew a right spirit within me

Create in me a clean heart, oh God And renew a right spirit within me

Cast me not away from Thy presence, oh Lord And take not Thy holy spirit from me

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation And renew a right spirit within me



"Create in me a clean heart oh God" by Maranatha Singers

My Decision

Reject to be a New Creation

- Hardened Heart (not penitent)
- My own ideologies
 (<u>my</u> ego, <u>my</u> thoughts, <u>my</u> choices
 instead of God's plan for salvation)
- Living according to the flesh (luxury & pleasures of my body directing my day-to-day decisions)
- An earthly carnal life on earth naturally leads to perdition, suffering and eternal death

Accept to be a New Creation

- New Heart (penitent & contrite)
- Enlightened Mind
 (Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path Psalm 119:105)
- Live according to the spirit
 (God's Holy Spirit leads my spirit,
 and directs my entire way of life)
- A pure heavenly life on earth, naturally leads to Joy, Peace and Eternal Life in Heaven

Newness of Life

"Therefore we were buried with Him through <u>baptism</u> into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in **newness of life**."

-- Romans 6:4

New Peace

and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

-- Philippians 4:7

All things New

Now I saw a **new heaven and a new earth**, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, **New Jerusalem**, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying,

"Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."

-- Revelation 21:1-5

3 R's

To help the environment – 3 R's:

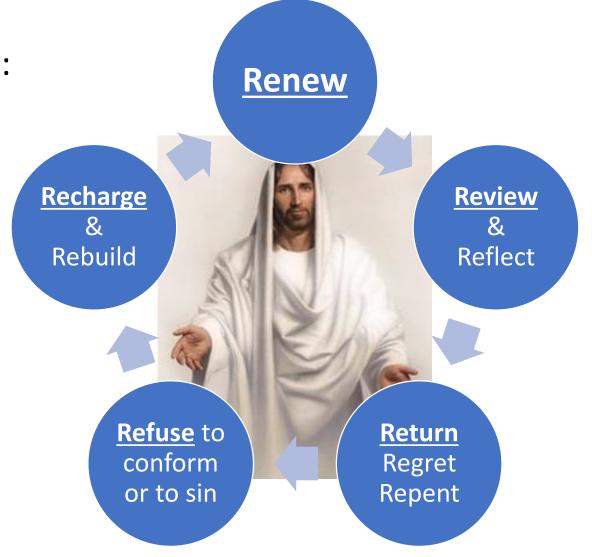
- Recycle
- Reduce
- Reuse



5 R's to help my spiritual environment

To help my **spiritual** environment:

- Review & Reflect
- Return, Regret, Repent
- Refuse to conform or to sin
- Recharge & Rebuild
- Renew



How to keep things spiritually new!?

- Review my actions reflect daily
- 2. Return to the Lord repentance
- 3. Refuse to conform to the world
- 4. Recharge my spiritual batteries
- 5. Renew my covenant with the Lord

1 REVIEW my actions & reflect daily

- Sitting at the Lord's feet
- Quiet time with the Lord
- Self-assessment at the end of the day
- If we judge ourselves, we shall not be judged

2 RETURN to the Lord

- Return back to the Lord's loving arms
- Come closer & closer to the Lord by ...
- Stopping anything that displeases the Lord
- Doing more to please the Lord
- Doing more to help others

REFUSE to conform to the world

- Refusing to re-crucify the Lord
- Every time I sin, I am nailing my Lord back onto the cross
- Do not be conformed to the evil in this world
- Asking the Lord's help to overcome sin
- My Lord Jesus Christ, help me!

4 RECHARGE my spiritual batteries

- Give us our **Daily Bread** ...
- Read the Word of God (Bible)
- Quiet Time with the Lord (Prayer & Meditation)
- Sacramentally nourished by the Word of God (Communion)

RENEW my covenant with the Lord

- Repentance&
 - Confession
- Communion
- Constant Prayer

Behold, I make all things new

- 1. Review my actions daily
- 2. Return to the Lord quickly
- Refuse to conform to the world
- 4. Recharge my spiritual batteries (Reading the Word of God, Prayer, Communion)
- Renew my covenant with the Lord (Confession, Communion, Constant Prayer)

5 R's to help my spiritual environment

To help my **spiritual** environment:

- Review & Reflect
- Return, Regret, Repent
- Refuse to conform or to sin
- Recharge & Rebuild
- Renew

