

What Is a Christian 22 Christian Is a New Man

by James K. Boswell

As a Christian, we have a new nature, a new energy, and a new will, empowering us to live a life of concentrated activity and unwavering faith in God.

Duration: 52:20

Scripture: Matthew 6:33, John 7:17, Romans 12:1, Ephesians 5:17, James 1:22, 1 Peter 2:4

Topics: "New Creation", "Spiritual Transformation"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the concept of being greater than others. He uses the example of a boy and an elephant named Jumbo to illustrate the difference between human and animal life. The preacher then shares a story of a young man who hears the gospel and accepts Christ into his heart, leading to a transformation in his life. The sermon also highlights the importance of living a sinless life surrendered to God's will, empowered by the Holy Spirit, and rooted in unwavering faith. The preacher encourages believers to put off their old ways and put on the character of Jesus Christ.

Transcript

Now during these days together we've been looking at the theme of it, who is a Christian? We found the Christian is a child of God, he's an heir of God, redeemed by precious blood, he is an influence, a soldier, a temple, an instrument, an ambassador, and he is a new man, or a new creation. Now you remember we've given you a cross upon each of these, I'm not taking time to go back over them tonight. If you want them, you'll get them on the tape, and I'm sure there'll be a real blessing to you in your own quiet moments.

But tonight, the theme is, as we know, the new man. We started off this morning with that theme, we want to continue. So then the capital N, the new man has a new nature, he has a new nature.

All things have passed away, to hope all things to become new. 1 Peter chapter 2 verse number 4 says, we have become partakers of a new nature, we receive the very nature of God, it is a divine nature, it is the very life of God. And remember in those wonderful words of having put off the old man and the ugly works of the flesh, we'll just remember Colossians chapter 3, putting off the ugly works of the flesh, and putting on the lovely character of our beloved Lord Jesus Christ.

That's what we were dealing with this morning in the Bible study. We also gave you a picture and a simple aspect of the life that we now present as a believer. May I touch it? I haven't got time to go into detail.

Remember it's a life from above, it is a sinless life. A life wholly surrendered to the will of God the Father. It is a life empowered, energized by the Holy Spirit, leads us to the surrender to the will of God, the word of God, and the work of God.

Life of Christ, a life of concentrated activity, no matter how busy are the Lord Jesus here on earth, it is never divorced from fellowship with and devotion to the Father. This is a life of unwavering faith in God. When we try to get him to deviate to the left hand or to the right hand, remember how Peter said, Pity thyself, pity thyself, they shall not be under thee.

Thomas said, don't go there, they'll stone you. And I believe both those men, Peter and Thomas, had a great concern for the Lord Jesus. The Lord knew the voice of the serpent through it all, and he went forward with an unwavering faith in God.

He had a purpose in coming into the world. He was undeterred in the carrying on of that purpose, that purpose to do the will of God the Father, which meant giving his life for your redemption, mine. Voluntary and willingly, he went all the way.

Thank God for all of us who thanked him for doing this. Then lastly, the life of Jesus Christ, a life crowned with glorious victory. That's the life that we now possess as his beloved people.

As a Christian, we have a life from above. As a Christian, we have a sinless life. I'm not teaching sinless perfection, but the life of Christ is a life that cannot sin.

The Holy Damned nature is in each and every believer and will be there to the very end of the journey, and that is still capable of sinning. We by faith got to reckon the old man crucified with Christ, make no provision for the pledge, and reckon ourselves alive unto God through Jesus Christ our wonderful Lord. Then to recognize tonight his life as a life utterly surrendered to the will of God the Father.

Now I know some of you during these past days have come to that place of full and complete surrender of your life to the authority of the Lord Jesus, and you know something, my fourth point now, of the empowering of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit, my friend, only coming in to indwell, but now to energize and to fill and empower. And you know, my friend, his energy is a joy going forth in surrender to the will of God, say, Lord, thy will at any cost, and you're submissive to the word of God and the plain teachings of God's holy scripture.

And my friend, to the work of God, whatever that task may be, whether in this land or in lands across the seas, but Lord, it is thy will, it is thy word, it is thy work. Then remember too, his arrival of concentrated activity. Now we're living in days of rush and bustle, very often under the guise of Christian service.

The beloved, if your Christian service is causing you to be and to divorce your fellowship with the Lord Jesus in quiet, if it's devoid of devotion to your adorable Lord Jesus, then I want to tell your friend you're far too busy for him, far too busy for him. The Lord's work, my friend, is not a burden. My yoga is easy, my burden is light, and when you find that yoga's beginning to change and begin to rub and make sores, it's no longer the Lord's work.

You're working in the energy of the flesh. When you find the work becoming such a burden, it's bowing you down and pressing you down altogether, it's no longer the Lord's work. Oh beloved, get this deep down in your heart, it is my yoga is easy, my burden is light.

This does not mean, dear children of God, that you've got to in any way forego the activity you're in. Let me show your activity is in line with the Lord's will, that you, my friend, are in fellowship with the Father, and you're not only devoted to his authority and love in your own heart, then the result, all the beauty of it all, his yoke is easy and his burden is light. All the inner serenity, all the inner freedom and joy flooding in the heart, the one who recognizes wonderful joy of a concentrated activity, concentrating on the Lord's glory, motivated by the love of Christ, all the joy there is.

Furthermore now, a life of unwavering faith in God. Now, it may have been during these past days, that's why I try to repeat this tonight, that someone here has been brought upon by the Spirit of God, and you have come to a decision in your heart, and my friend, the Spirit of God is still striving with you, but yet you have not given up the fight. I request it, my friend, from one angle after the other angle, from one aspect on another aspect.

Now, may I suggest this to you in the name of the Lord Jesus, to move forward with an unwavering faith in God. I was preaching on the Easter Convention some years ago, just outside Gloucester in England, and a large congregational church was in hire for the particular convention. The other speaker was the late, not the late, he's still alive, John Williamson, the Chief Constable of Northampton, and I'll never forget this in all my life, as I looked around at Vance Crown, looked my way up in the gallery, and I saw a great crowd of young men and young women.

As I was going along the line, I've been outlining to you now, it's been an Easter Conference, and I said, young man, young woman, move forward with an unwavering faith in God. Whatever the Lord says to you, act upon it and move forward with an unwavering faith in God. Not knowing, seventy-five percent of that great congregation up there in the gallery was a young man.

He belonged to a certain denomination, and he had seen the truth as it is in Christ Jesus, the truth in the New Testament of a New Testament church, he'd seen the truth of the priesthood of all believers, the privilege of breaking bread upon the first day of every week, he'd seen the truth of believers' baptism, and every time he thought of acting upon his decision, and what God had revealed to him, a voice said, if you give up that Bible class for those young men, you've got forty young men in that Bible class, and you have led most of them to Christ, if you give up that Bible class, probably a modernist will get that class. Perhaps somebody will come along and teach modernistic teaching to that class, and that young man, he melted before that. He could not think of any involvement of having his class.

That day up in the gallery, he bowed to the sweet will of God, and he said, Lord, I can see it, and this day I am moving forward with an unwavering faith in Thee. And he bowed his heart, and he surrendered his will. Next day he went to his pastor.

That's all his pastor was about to do. The pastor put his arm right round him and said, John, I heartily agree with you, and if I were to do what I ought to be doing, I ought to be coming with you. But John, at my age, this is my bread and butter, and I've got to stay where I am.

John went to his class, told his class what he was about to do, and said, no, I don't want any of you young men to follow me. I'm going to give you the Scripture that brought me to this decision. And if the Spirit of God tells you then to move forward, but if you just move because I'm moving, you'll never be happy.

But if you move because the Spirit of God is saying it to you, and God is giving it to you, then what joy will be yours, John? Your joy will no longer be bound. John next, Lord, seen, found himself not now the

beautiful edifice with wonderful ornamentation, with wonderful music, wonderful poetry and eloquence. He found himself at a little corrugated tin hut.

He presented himself at the door. He was received as a believer in the Lord Jesus. He took his place at the Lord's table.

Oh, the joy filled that young man's heart that day. He joined Unobam's. There he was, my friend, a submission to the Lordship of the Lord Jesus.

Having moved forward with an unwavering faith in God the Father, the result was within 18 months his whole Bible class was with him. Within 18 months his whole Bible class was with him. Get it? They'll honor him.

He will honor James Brooks. A Boston pain so many years ago sent a great delusion. Darling, why did you leave the Church of England ministry? That great man looked at Brooks and said, also another great man.

The providence of God placed me in the Church of England. The Word of God led me out from the Church of England. Oh, my friend, tonight I won't disagree with your heart.

Has God during these days been talking to you? No. Whatever it may be, will you move forward with an unwavering faith in God? They'll honor him. He will honor.

He'll never disappoint you. He'll never let you down. Obedience is better than sacrifice and a hearken than a pheromone.

Oh, my friend, listen tonight. You may be sacrificial in your giving and in your living, but these will not take the place of wholehearted obedience to the revealed will of God. And you know as well as I do that during these days together, the Lord has revealed his will to your heart.

Then may I pray with you and plead with you. I would implore with all my heart you tonight act upon God's revealed will in submission to authority. What joy will be your joy? Oh, the thrill of this.

Sweet will of God be thou my portion. Sweet will of God be thou my choice. If in the valley or on the mountain, sweet will of God my choice.

My good friend, Dr. Stephen Ofert said these words. I heard him say them. I've read them.

He said partial obedience is total disobedience in the reckoning of God. Did you get that? Partial obedience is total disobedience in the reckoning of God. Oh, friend, closing moment of these two lovely weeks together.

As God has been talking to all of our hearts, may we again move forward with unwavering faith in him. What's the result? A life crowned with glorious victory. If Christ is conquered within your heart and mind, then tonight we are more than conquerors through him that loveth us.

Oh, that God does not know in the fact that we have a new nature, the divine nature, the very life of God. The minute I received Christ, John 1, verse 12, the minute I received him, then gave me a right to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name. Then 1 John 5, verse 12 says, He that hath the Son hath life.

He that hath not the Son of God hath not life. Oh, friend, you're here tonight without the Lord Jesus. You have never yet started to live.

Life begins when Jesus comes into your life. But I must hurry. Not only has the Christian a new nature, but he has a new energy, a new energy, the letter E. I thank God for this new energy tonight.

Remember it says in Philippians chapter 2 and verse 13, it is God who worketh in you both will and do of his good pleasure, a new energy. Remember in Philippians chapter 1, verse number 5 and 6, it says, From the first day until now he who commenced the work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ. So then in Philippians chapter 1, verse number 5 and 6, we have the work commenced.

You have the energy, my friend, coming in by the resection of the Holy Spirit into your life. But then in Philippians 2, verse 13, you'll find this work going on continually. What is the Bible saying? It is God who worketh in you Friend, you can't live this Christian life, neither can I, but thank God he is now the new energy.

This new energy is not an influence, not a power apart from the person, and the person is the Holy Spirit who indwells each and every believer. I thank God for this new respect tonight. There's no thought before my heart may thrill you.

Acts chapter 4, look at it please because I misquote it. Acts chapter 4, verses 31 through verse number 33. This new energy.

Remember before Pentecost, we find how the Holy Spirit was with his own, that at Pentecost he entered into his own The old sailing days of the ships that depended upon the wind drive them along, a power outside. The sail caught the wind and away they went, but today the power is within the vessel. The Old Testament, the Holy Spirit came down upon certain men and certain women for certain occasions and certain special fulfillment of God's purpose.

My friend, today the Holy Spirit indwells each and every believer. Look what it says in Acts 4, please, in verse number 31. And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together, and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

Notice now, and the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul. Neither said any of them unto the things which he possessed was his own, but they had all things common. Now, verse 33.

And with great power gave the apostles witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. Notice verse 31. The place was shaken, they were filled with the Holy Spirit, this new energy.

This energy is a person. He indwells each believer. As I yield my whole life to him, he fills what I yield, and he uses what he has filled.

Notice what it says in verse 33 now. There was great power and great grace. In Acts chapter 8, there was great joy.

Isn't it lovely? So it will be with your life and with my life as we yield to this new energy. That's on the Colossians, will you please? And chapter 3, in verse number 23, just over the page from Philippians. Colossians 3 and verse number 23.

And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily as to the Lord, and not unto men. Why? Because a new motive in our service. We got a new objective in our service, and we got a new energy.

This new energy is the Spirit of God indwelling each and every believer. Oh, how we try to emphasize this during these days. Our bodies are the temple of the Holy Ghost who is in us.

We are not our own. We've been bought with a price, the precious blood of Jesus Christ. What does the Bible say? Therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

Near children of God as a new man, you've got a new nature. Thank God you've got a new energy, and that new energy, that new power is the Holy Ghost indwelling you. And as we each one yield to his indwelling, and we know the filling of the Holy Spirit, we shall do all with a pure heart toward God's glory.

Oh, what joy this brings. Then I hurry to the next point. The world letter to W reminds us we've got a new will.

A new will. It's no longer my will, but his will. Isn't that true? That, my friend, listen, when you become a child of God, you recognize your will has been surrendered to the will of your adorable Lord Jesus.

And tonight you say, Lord, not my will, but thy will be done. So this new nature, this new energy brings before us the joy of this new will. Hilbert says, Galatians chapter 1, and verse number 9, Galatians 1, verse number 9, For this caused me also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will, in all wisdom and spiritual understanding, that ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, increasing in the knowledge of God, strengthened with all might, this new energy, strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power.

Remember, keep your finger there, and I want to quote from Ephesians chapter 1, verse 19, the very same power of H. Christ from the dead, that power is toward us. Chapter 3, verse 20 of Ephesians, that power is in us, according to the power that worketh in us. Now, isn't that a lovely statement? Hilbert says now here, verse 11, Colossians 1, strengthened with all might, according to the glorious power, now I want you to notice something, that little word all, little word all, and it means all in the sense of completeness, did you get that? This word means all in the sense of completeness, we are complete, we are made full, Colossians 2, verse number 10, in Christ Jesus, now notice the little word all, verse 9, in all wisdom, verse 10, unto all pleasing, now here in verse number 11, unto all patience, and all suffering with joyfulness, giving thanks unto the Father, who hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saint in lust, who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of the dear Son of his love, in whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sin.

Oh, aren't you glad you're a child of God? Oh, does it not thrill your soul to recognize what you've been brought into, and think of that little word all in the sense of completeness, we are complete, we are made full, and all the fullness that's treasured up in God's beloved Son. Now, go over just verse number 12, or chapter 4, verse 12 of chapter 4 of the Colossians, Epaphros, who is one of your servants of Christ, saluted you, always laboring fervently for you in prayer. Oh, may there be more such men and women raised up during these days, who shall labor fervently for each other in prayer.

Notice now, that you may be perfect and complete in all, little word, all the will of God. Now, that God's desire for your life and mine, that we might be complete, made full, come into full maturity in all the will of

God. Now, go over please, will you? The one says alone in chapter 4, one says alone in chapter 4 and verse number 3. Now, feel free, usually I do like listening to the rustling among the leaves again tonight.

Notice what it says, and this is the will of God, even your sanctification. Now, notice, we've got a new will. God's great desire for His servants, we should come to the full knowledge of this new will.

Now, notice what it says here, and this is the will of God concerning you. What is it saying? Even your sanctification. We read a lot, and we hear a lot about this scripture saying, it's the will of God all men should be saved.

Now, I hardly agree with that, it's true. But now, since we are saved, it's the will of God that we should know this practical sanctification, that we're set apart to God, and that Christ will be sanctified as Lord in our heart in a practical way. We are positionally sanctified before God, but he says this is the will of God, even your sanctification.

We may know this practical moment by moment, day by day sanctification, that we are set apart to God. Now, notice chapter 5, please, of the same book. Reading in, please, verse number 18.

In everything giving thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. Says, not only the will of God all men might be saved, not only the will of God all men believing now in the Lord Jesus might be sanctified, but is the will of God that we who are saved, we who are sanctified, might in everything be giving thanks. It's the will of God, says here, in everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Oh, may God give us this as we come to the closing moments of these lovely weeks we've had together. Now, as I leave you, may you in all things and everything give thanks, that we move forward to other spheres of service, may we too go forth knowing the joy of salvation, the joy of this practical sanctification, that Christ is sanctified as Lord in the heart, and that in everything, during the will of God, from the heart, that is in all things giving thanks, in all things giving thanks. Now, I want you to go back with me just to one more scripture, please, this connection.

John, the seventh chapter, and verse 17. John 7, and verse number 17. Now, this is a very precious touch, and I want to leave it with you here in this connection.

John 7, 17. If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself. Did you get the word? If any man will do his will, now he's revealed his will to us regarding salvation, regarding sanctification, regarding the giving of thanks, now we do his will, we shall know of the doctrine, we shall know his will for our life.

One more scripture in this connection, Romans chapter 12, a verse I'm never tired of looking at. Romans 12, and verse number 1. Now, this is the will of God. I beseech you, therefore, brethren, by the mercy of God, ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, wholly acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable, your intelligent, your logical service, your spiritual worship, and be not conformed to his will.

Be you transformed by the renewing of your mind that you may prove what is that good and perfect and acceptable will of God. How am I going to know God's will acceptable in my life? The believer in the Lord Jesus will say, God's will is good, God's will is perfect. The only fully surrendered one will say, God's will is acceptable.

God's will is acceptable. In Romans 1, 12, one beloved, I see full surrender, and I fully surrender to his authority in my life day by day. I know how I long each and every one of us here know we know the joy of this.

What for? That I may know God's will for my life. I could give you a concrete example, one after another, of men and women of all walks of life. Sometime ago, I was conducting a gospel campaign in the Midwest.

We'd been there the year before for eight weeks solid, having three and four meetings a day, commencing with early morning prayer meetings at six o'clock in the morning. We're getting 25 to 30 people out at that time for prayer. We went back the following year, and I asked if I could bring Colin Anderson with me.

We went along there. We were there for seven weeks, same type of program. The first year I was there, in this particular assembly, God began to move amongst God's people.

They'd gone all out for a gospel crusade. They'd done a lot of publicity, a lot of advertising, radio, TV, Fox, and so on. We hadn't gone there very long before I found it was the believers that needed the gospel, and there is a gospel for the believer, and that's what I've been trying to get across during these past days.

And just as I preach for a decision among the unbeliever, I preach for a decision among the believers, and you're making a decision. You're making a decision, dear child of God, and He's going to hold us responsible to that decision. You're really going to decide to go all the way with Him? He's going to have His way completely in your life? Are you going to continue in a state of criminality? That's not God's desire for your life and mine.

The way God began to move in that area, the second year we went back, one of the finest, dearest surgeons you have in this North American continent, was a very successful businessman. Say, one night after a meeting, he said, Jim, will you come and have coffee with us? And those two men were greatly entertained. They said these words.

As we sat down to coffee and went giving thanks, they said, Jim, last year when you were here, we fought your ministry. We fought it. We relied, and we said, all we need we've got in Christ.

Believers, you've got everything in Christ. No need for anything more. But our wives, entertained through this ministry, they saw the joy and the truth of what it meant to be fully surrendered.

When we would get up to preach, they'd say, oh yes, your ministry is beautifully constructed. It's worked perfectly in its delivery, but there's no power and no results. And now we see.

In fact, we turned around and said to our wives and to others who'd entertained, we're talking this along the same lines. Oh, you've got botulism. It's botulism you've got.

But as soon as we see, Jim, it's not. It's not botulism. Is it for a God? God ain't.

And Jim, we want this. I said, not this, not it. He wants you.

And that doctor, that neurosurgeon, very well known to name this North American continent, he broke down, he sobbed like a child, and he came right through and he said, Lord, what I've known theoretically for years, and what I've recognized I have in me as a believer, I now appropriate by faith. Not only is my Lord over every part of my life. Lord, take full surrender.

I am in complete control of my life as I fully surrender to thee. The other man said, Jim, I see it all now. He said, I've been giving \$65,000 every year from my business to missions.

Most of that money's been going down to Dominican Republic. And he said, I can see all now. I glory to see my name at the bottom of that check.

I glory to see my name at the bottom of that check. Glory be to me, what I am doing. I can see all that's in the energy of the flesh.

That man broke down, he sobbed his way through, he asked the Lord to forgive him for a nocturnal motive in giving. He said, I knew it was easy to get \$65,000 every year from my business. Easy, my friend.

But he said, Jim, it has not been easy for me to give myself in tonight. But thank God I did. And many there are, my friend, who night after night during these days, the Spirit of God has been bringing us page to page.

When God's claims upon you will rise upon my life. That dear man of God, Alan Redpath, when he went to Moody's church, he looked around that vast crowd of people. He said, you invited me here as your pastor, as your shepherd.

He said, when Dr. Harry Ironside was here, he gave you objective teaching. When Dr. Paul Reader was here, they gave you objective teaching. But he said, now we're going to make that subjective teaching.

And what they give you objectively, we're going to give subjectively. And what happened, his congregation, my friend, split. He found there, my friend, men who were living insane or taking leading positions.

Secret smokers and other things going on. Oh, I have everything in Christ, hallelujah. But this has got to be brought down to earth in a practical way, day by day.

What happened? Before Alan Redpath, when I left Moody's church, that place was packed again with men and women born again and sanctified by the Spirit of God. Are we willing for this tonight? Are we willing for this? In reality, to my next point, the new man. New man, my friend, is a new nature.

He's got a new energy. He's got a new will. But now, what is this going to do? It's going to magnify Christ.

There's an end. It's going to magnify Christ. Isn't this lovely? This new nature, this new energy, this new will, will not often magnify man.

Only the man Christ Jesus. That's the desire of your heart, that's the ambition of your whole being, once Christ becomes Lord in your life. One ambition is that Christ might be magnified as Paul, Philippians 1.20, whether by life or by death, that Christ will be magnified in my body.

John the Baptist cried, remember, Christ must increase, I must decrease. Remember two of those wonderful words of John the Baptist in John 1.36. As he pointed to the Lamb of God, he said, Oh, how I wish I could preach like that. Oh, how I wish I could present my adorable Lord Jesus to your heart tonight.

That you would see him looming large before you. That not merely to admire him, but be attracted to him, and grant him wholehearted allegiance, that you too would leave all and follow him. And follow him.

My friend, this new nature, this new energy, this new will, if we're in the good of it, is going to magnify Christ. Make much of that lovely man that God prays, and to God glory. We must hurry on.

Before I do this though, may I give you an illustration. A scientist had a very rare seed given to him. Just a little seed, but a very rare seed, a very choice seed.

He analyzed the seed. He got the various ingredients. And he got ingredients identical to the seeds given to him.

New compounds to the seed. The seeds were identical. He planted the seeds in soil.

Same preparation of soil. He waited. The time came when the seeds given to him began to break the ground, and come forth, and grow, and grow, and grow.

The seed that he had compounded, identical as the other seed. No movement. No movement.

Why? The ingredients were identical. No one could tell the difference from one seed to the other. But one thing was missing.

The germ of life. And only God can give the germ of life. And you may have been christened, or confirmed.

A church member, a communicant. Baptized by immersion. You may be a preacher.

All the same, but listen. Only God can give the germ of life. And when he breathed into Adam, the breath of life, breath entered into that man.

Light entered into that man. And only the Spirit of God can breathe life into your spirit, life, and mind. Breathe in me, breath of God.

Fill me with life in you. My good friend, Harold Warnish. He and I were at a convention together some time ago.

And I used an illustration I'd borrowed from him years before, back in Britain. And as I used the illustration, I said, Do you mind me using that illustration? He said, Jim, that's why I gave it to you. Here it is.

Sitting on the top of a mountain was a little piece of fungus. The fungus said to the mountain, I am greater than you are. So it's probably true.

The mountain had no light. The fungus had vegetable light. And going along the dusty lane, looking over in the meadows was a majestic oak.

Sitting on the top of the oak was a little ladybug. Bug? Bird. Ladybird's down in Texas, isn't she? The ladybug.

Here it is, sitting on the top of the oak. And all of a sudden, the little ladybug said to the oak, I am greater than you are. Look greater than I am.

Don't you see my powerful body? My powerful branches? My shady leaves? But the little ladybug's perfectly correct, you know. The great oak has only got vegetable light. The little ladybug has organic light.

You take your three-year-old along to the zoo. I'm terrified to go to the zoo. I'm terrified of keeping.

But you can go. Take your little three-year-old with you. Now you do so, you'll probably see him going around and jumbo back.

Having a jawline and an elephant back. All of a sudden, he says to Jumbo, Jumbo, I am greater than you are. Jumbo says, greater than I am? Don't you see my big body? My four powerful legs? Look, I've got a trunk that's one end, a tail that's the other end.

How are you more powerful than I am? Greater than I am. Oh, he says, but I am greater than you are, Jumbo. The little boy's perfectly correct.

Whereas Jumbo's only got animal life, the little boy's got human life. Animal life of a far greater degree. But working for a professor, there's a certain teenager.

He's late teens. He's working in the lab. This young fellow goes along to the gospel service on a Sunday evening.

He hears a clear annunciation of the gospel. He believes the record given concerning God's beloved son. He receives Christ by faith into his heart.

And he becomes the possessor of spiritual life. Next morning, he goes into the lab. The professor's there already and visits some research.

The boy must confess Christ now to his employer. So he goes up somewhat timidly and says, Professor. Yes, my boy.

Professor, I am greater than you are. Straightens himself. He just pinches himself and boots him down.

Greater than I am. Don't you realize who I am? I know who you are, sir. But still, I am greater than you are.

Well, how do you make that up? Listen, last night I went along to the gospel service. I heard Christ die for my sins. To bear the penalty against my sins.

I heard Christ rose again from the dead. I might be justified. Sir, I believe that testimony given.

That is the cry into my heart. Oh, sir, you've only got human life. But I've got both human life and divine life.

I've got a new life. I've got a spiritual life, sir. So I am greater than you are.

Now, I think I can see, Mr. Wilder's looking around the group like this and saying in his own sweet way, It is possible one believer may say to another tonight, I am greater than you are. We would never say a thing like that. It would prove not to be true.

But all believers have life. And Christ said, I am come that ye might have life. And that ye might have it more abundantly.

All believers have life. All believers know the good of the abundant life. And this is God's plan for your life and mine.

He wants us not to possess but to provide it by fee. Oh, he provided for us and his beloved son. And so, my friend, now the new life, the new energy and the new will will magnify Christ.

It will do something more. It will attract to Christ. It becomes attractive.

And this new life attracts to Christ. Not to self, but to Christ. Isn't this lovely? I am thinking of that wonderful verse, you know, in 2 Corinthians chapter 5 verse 19.

Referred to this only the other night. Remember that? And I mean it was. 2 Corinthians chapter 5 and verse number 19 reads like this.

To which the God within Christ reconciling the world unto himself. Not including the treasures unto him. Communion unto us in a minute.

The word of reconciliation. Now go back please. Go into verse number 16.

Verse 15 rather. What is it saying? And that he died for all. That he which lives should not henceforth live unto himself.

But unto him which died for them and rose again. So here you have first of all this new nature, this new energy, this new will will magnify Christ. And attract others to Christ.

Then that's because I really must close. I'm sorry I got to close right here. But I must.

Near the later end was going to mean you'll never be without Christ. Is it true? That you man will never be without Christ. He's never without Christ.

Isn't that lovely? When he comes into your life, he comes into your life forever. And what is it saying? I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So many boldly say the Lord is my helper.

And I will not fear what man may do unto me. Now some of you may be going away tomorrow. My friend, you may be staying right here on the campus on parts of town.

But remember that Christ is with you tonight. He's the Christ who will lead you all the way. He'll never disappoint you.

He'll never let you down. He'll never call you a needless tear. Nor ask you to carry an unnecessary burden.

He's the same yesterday, of the day, and forever. He's the great unchanging Christ. So my friend, this new nature, this new energy, this new will will magnify Christ.

Attract to Christ. And you're never without Christ. Aren't you glad you're a Christian? Amen? Oh I found a friend, oh such a friend.

He loved me ere I knew him. He drew me with the chords of love and love bound me to him. Round my heart so closely twine those ties which not been severed.

For I am his and he is mine. Forever and forever. There is a little hymn flashing through my mind at number 81.

The closing hymn. The glory of his presence. I walked alone with Jesus in a fellowship divine.

Nevermore can earth allure me. I am his and he is mine. Hymn number 81.

Now during these days together can this be said of you? I walked alone with Jesus in a fellowship divine. Nevermore can earth allure me. I am his and he is mine.

Number 81. Now, see at the top this is a solo. And we're all going to sing a solo tonight.

We're all going to sing together. Every one softly and prayerfully. And the light of what we've been listening to.

You've got a new nature. You've got a new energy. You've got a new will.

Magnify Christ. Attract to Christ. And you're never without Christ.

God bless you. We sing this hymn all together. I have walked alone with Jesus in a fellowship divine.

Nevermore can earth allure me. I am his. I am his.

On the mountain I have seen him. Christ my son. I have seen him.

I have known him. But he came to walk with me. And I'm glad he's of his presence.

Will be mine eternally. All the glory of his presence. All the beauty is his forever.

He has won me. Born I felt his presence near me. He is all my burdens borne.

All I wonder is of someone here tonight. And this is not true of you. Beloved is of someone here.

This is not true of you. You do not yet know him. You may sing the hymn but you don't know him.

Oh may God give you grace. I'm not going to ask you to stand up to confess it. I'm not going to ask you to raise your hand to confess it.

But in the quiet of your own heart will you say amen if you mean it. Will you really now? And if you're not sure will you wait behind tonight after all the others have gone. Just come back and say Jim I want this matter settled.

I want to know him not only as my savior. I want to know him as my Lord. Now we can sing the last verse.

Thoughtfully and prayerfully. It's a beautiful hymn. Now let's sing all together in the darkness.

Audio: <https://sermonindex1.b-cdn.net/9/SID9677.mp3>

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