

Embrace
Holy
Living

RE- FLECTING GOD

05/11/16 - A New Name, A New Life

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Ephesians 4:17-32

In John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*, the pilgrim's name is Christian, but that was not his original name. His name at first was Graceless. It was God's grace that changed his name. It is always by God's grace that we receive a new name and a new life!

Here are some thoughts about having a new name:

- *A New Name Denotes a New Identity.* My identity is the collection of characteristics by which I am known or recognized by others. God's power of forgiveness allowed me to change my identity. Others see the difference between Graceless and Christian.
- *A New Name Denotes a New Creation.* Creation deals with origin. In the world of matter, we think in terms of energy and stars at the beginning of time. Christ makes us a new creation when we come to Him seeking salvation (2 Corinthians 5:17).
- *A New Name Denotes a Fresh Start.* After a life full of sin, we all need a fresh start to real life. Christ offers that fresh start with positive future possibilities, a redeemable past, and a heart filled with God.

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