



D. Used to describe this new life that baptized believers have:

*2Cor.5 [17] Therefore, if any one is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold, the new has come.*

*Rom.8 [1] There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.*

E. It is entered through conversion to Jesus Christ: (1:11-14)

**"In him,** according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to the counsel of his will, we who first hoped in Christ have been destined and appointed to live for the praise of his glory.

**In him** you also,

who have **heard** the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have **believed in him,**

**were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit,**

which is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory."

F. The purpose of this new live "in Christ": "for the praise of his glory" (1:11-14)

G. This involves a continuous conversion, a continuous growing in grace, continuous detachment:

*1Cor.3 [1] But I, brethren, could not address you as spiritual men, but as men of the flesh, as babes in Christ.*

*Col.1 [28] Him we proclaim, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man mature in Christ.*

*Eph 3 [14-19] "For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with might through his Spirit in the inner man, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have power to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."*

H. This requires continuous self-examination and repentance:

*1John.2 [4-6] He who says "I know him" but disobeys his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him; but whoever keeps his word, in him truly love for God is perfected. By this we may be sure that we are in him: he who says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.*

*1John.3*

*[3] And every one who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.*

*[6] No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him.*

*[9] No one born of God commits sin; for God's nature abides in him, and he cannot sin because he is born of God.*

I. Jesus promised the means by which we can remain / abide in Him:

*John.15 [5] I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.*

*John.6 [56] He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.*

J. He always promised his help through prayer:

*Jn 15 [7] If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you.*

*1 Jn 5 [14] And this is the confidence which we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us.*