

The Attackers: Newness of Life Is a Potential until Capacity Is Developed from Spiritual Growth; Failure to Isolate Distractions Precludes Capacity; Only Biblical Problem-Solving Devices Can Effectively Manage Distractions; No One Can Be Copacetic without Developing Newness of Life, Rom. 6:4

Romans 6:4 - Therefore, we have been buried with Him by being identified with Christ in His physical death in order that just as Christ was raised up from deaths [spiritual and physical] through the glory of the Father, so also we might with interest in His Word walk in the completely different and thus astonishingly new way of life of the soul. (EXT)

1. Newness of life speaks of an encapsulated environment in which blessings from God can be imputed from the justice of God to the life of the mature believer.
2. This environment is greater than that which Adam and Ishah enjoyed in the garden prior to the fall.
3. Inside the pristine environment of this new life the believer is isolated from the policy, plan, and propaganda espoused by Lucifer as ruler of this world and his emissaries who communicate his doctrines.
4. To be isolated from the wiles of Satan's earthly rulership means that the mature believer is also isolated from the sovereignty of the sinful nature as the ruler of his life.
5. Those in constant turmoil due to the challenges of thought, people, system, and disaster testings have been coopted by the Dark Side and have reverted back into the slavery from which the Lord delivered them at salvation.
6. All this chaos is left behind by the mature believer. Newness of life is a potential established at salvation and indicated by the subjunctive mood of the verb "to walk."

7. When saved the potential to “walk in newness of life” is established but it cannot become a reality until the believer’s capacity is developed through spiritual growth.
8. The tragedy for most believers today, and this does not exclude some in this congregation, is the inability to isolate distractions, resolve interpersonal disagreements, and function under the filling of the Holy Spirit.
9. As far as God is concerned, it doesn’t matter what the details are regarding their complaints; the issue is that the inability or the unwillingness to resolve them biblically has caused them to reside in the cosmic system.
10. So, what if they are right? A right thing done in a wrong way is wrong. So, what if they are wrong? A wrong thing done in a wrong way is wrong. Also, a wrong thing done in a right way is wrong.
11. Rather than resolve the issue through biblical problem-solving devices, which is the right thing done in a right way, many choose to live under the slavery of the sinful nature.
12. This places such individuals into a non-functional status in which they cannot grow in grace and as a result can never know, much less enjoy, the reality of this newness of life.
13. Local churches are made up of individuals. The local church is merely a designated place at a given geographic location where individuals gather to grow in grace.
14. The local church is not the source of historical impact by means of newness of life. That is the result of individuals making the advance to spiritual maturity.

15. If certain ones are not going to prepare their souls inside the divine dynasphere and function by the use of biblical problem-solving devices, then they must be prepared for the inevitable divine discipline designed to reorient them to grace and doctrine.