

# **“A New Creature in Christ” After Being “BURIED WITH CHRIST”**

## **TRANSITIONS IN EPHESIANS 2:1-11**

1. (1,5) from death to life
2. (2,6) from this world to heavenly places
3. (2,7) from the present age to the age to come
4. (1,21) from sinfulness to holiness
5. (3,18,22) from flesh to spirit
6. (14-19) from hostility to peace
7. -- from division to unity
8. -- from alienation to fellowship
9. -- from strangers to household
10. (2,18,22) from the world's spirit to God's Spirit.



**The number one thing the Spirit of God intends to accomplish – is to use the Word of God to make the baptized child of God more like the Son of God.”**  
(REF. ROMANS 8:9-11)

**Christianity is about C\_\_\_\_\_! (i.e. Resurrection Power)**  
**2 Corinthians 5:17 – “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”**  
**Historical background of the song: (ref. Bonus Sheet)**

## **Doctrinal Study of the lyrics:**

### **Verse 1 – *The Old Self Has Died***

**“Buried with Christ, my blessed Redeemer,”**(Romans 6:3–4)

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**“Dead to the old life of folly and sin;”** (Colossians 3:9–10)

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**“Satan may call, the world may entreat me,”** (James 4:7; 1 John 2:15)

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**“There is no voice that answers within.”** (Galatians 5:24)

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### **Verse 2 – *Alive Through the Spirit***

**“Dead unto sin, alive through the Spirit,”** (Romans 6:11)

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**“Risen with Him from the gloom of the grave,”** (Colossians 2:12–13)

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**“All things are new, and I am rejoicing”** (2 Corinthians 5:17)

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**“In His great love, His power to save.”** (Ephesians 2:4–5)

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### **Verse 3 – *A Life of Freedom and Power***

**“Sin hath no more its cruel dominion,”** (Romans 6:14)

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**“Walking ‘in newness of life,’ I am free—”** (Romans 6:4)

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“Glorious life of Christ, my Redeemer,” (John 10:10)

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“Which He so richly shareth with me.” (Titus 3:5–6)

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**Chorus – *The Final Declaration***

“Dead to the world, to voices that call me,” (Galatians 6:14)

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“Living anew, obedient but free;” (John 14:15)

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“Dead to the joys that once did enthrall me,” (Philippians 3:7–8)

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“Yet ’tis not I, Christ liveth in me.” (Galatians 2:20)

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**Conclusion:** *Have you died to the world so Christ can live in you?*  
(The Extra Verse)

“Think it not strange that things I once cherished cannot allure me  
or charm as before; for in the flesh with Christ I have suffered  
old things are passed, I love them no more.”

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**INVITATION:**



Baptism Is A O - T R  
for a L - T of R !

**DO THE BAPTIZED REALIZE THESE IMPLICATIONS:**

1. You Received A N M. (Col.3:5, Rom.6:1,8:12)
2. You Received A N E. (Col.3:11, Gal.3:26-27)
3. You Received A N F. (Col.3:12-16, Ac.2:41-46)

*“ARE YOU LIVING THE BAPTIZED LIFE?”*

# The History of the Hymn: "A New Creature" (Buried with Christ) by Thomas O. Chisholm

## Origins and Authorship

- **"A New Creature"**, more commonly known by its opening line, "Buried with Christ, my blessed Redeemer," is a hymn written by Thomas Obadiah Chisholm (1866–1960).
- Chisholm, originally a Methodist minister, left church leadership due to health issues and became prolific as a hymn text writer in the early 20th-century gospel music.
- The **music** for the hymn was composed by Lloyd Otis Sanderson (1901–1992), who, like Chisholm, had Methodist roots.
- The words are deeply inspired by **Romans 6:3-18**, emphasizing the Christian belief in spiritual transformation through baptism and a new life in Christ.

## Composition and Collaboration

- The hymn's creation was sparked by Sanderson, who corresponded regularly with Chisholm regarding their mutual faith and perspectives.
- After Sanderson's conversion, seeking greater scriptural depth from Chisholm's talents, he specifically requested a poem based on Romans 6, focusing on the themes of baptism and new life.
- Chisholm responded with the text, crafting stanzas that articulate the believer's death to sin and rebirth through Christ.
- The hymn's chorus underscores the message of spiritual renewal: *"Dead to the world, to voices that call me, living anew, obedient but free;... Yet 'tis not I, Christ liveth in me."*

## Publication, Reception, and Usage

- "A New Creature" was published in 1935 and appeared in several prominent hymnals, including *Hymns for Worship Revised*, *Sacred Selections for the Church*, and others.
- The hymn quickly became especially beloved among churches of Christ and the broader Restoration movement, frequently sung at baptisms and services emphasizing spiritual transformation.
- Chisholm's biblical fidelity and poetic clarity allowed the hymn to transcend denominational boundaries, finding enduring popularity in American hymnody.

## Lasting Influence

- Today, "A New Creature" is recognized for its scriptural grounding and its clear doctrinal message about baptism, sanctification, and new life in Christ.
- It remains closely associated with Romans 6: "We are buried with Him by baptism into death... that we should walk in newness of life," echoing through both its text and congregational use.
- The hymn is a prime example of Chisholm's broader body of work—deeply scriptural, accessible, and enduring in its impact on Christian worship.

- **Key Takeaway:** The hymn "A New Creature" endures as a cherished anthem of spiritual renewal, baptistic theology, and Chisholm's legacy within American hymnody—its journey shaped by correspondence, conviction, and scripture.

## What was the inspiration behind the lyrics?

The inspiration behind the lyrics of "Buried with Christ" ("A New Creature") by Thomas O. Chisholm was a direct request from Lloyd O. Sanderson, who collaborated with Chisholm on several hymns. After Sanderson's personal religious conversion, he sought to influence others, including Chisholm, with whom he exchanged many letters discussing their religious convictions. To encourage deeper reflection on the biblical doctrine of baptism, Sanderson specifically asked Chisholm to write a poem based on Romans 6:3–18, a passage dealing with the meaning of baptism, dying to sin, and living a new life in Christ.

Chisholm's resulting lyrics meticulously weave together direct references and themes from Romans 6 with supporting scriptures from elsewhere in the New Testament, especially focusing on the symbolic death, burial, and resurrection with Christ through baptism. The hymn emphasizes spiritual transformation: being "dead to the old life of folly and sin" and resistant to temptation, reflecting the believer's new life in Christ as described in Romans 6: "We are buried with Him by baptism into death...that we should also walk in newness of life".

Thus, the primary inspiration was Sanderson's desire to see a clear, biblically grounded hymn about the significance of baptism as transformative and essential to Christian faith, rooted specifically in Romans 6, and executed in Chisholm's distinctive, scripture-saturated style.

## The Significance of Scriptural Baptism in "Buried with Christ"

The hymn "Buried with Christ" centers its references to being *buried* and *dead to sin* on the imagery and theology of Romans 6:3–18. This passage explains that baptism [more than] symbolizes:

- The believer's **participation in Christ's death and burial.**
- The believer's **resurrection to a new life**, just as Christ was raised from the dead.

By being "buried with Christ by baptism," an individual [ends] the old life of sin and [begins] a new existence molded by Christ's example.

The hymn thus turns baptism into a powerful metaphor [and avenue] for radical spiritual renewal—a moment of both ending (death to sin) and beginning (resurrection to a new life).