



Daily Verse and Comment

Psalm 139:13-14

(13) For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. (14) I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.

King James Version

This is a somewhat elementary, perhaps even a crude, illustration that clearly pictures why the relationship with [God](#) is absolutely necessary. It begins by admitting that we neither created ourselves nor gave ourselves life. David admits someone else made him; he did not arise to life fully formed out of nothing. Like him, we did not determine that we would physically be in God's image. The Creator made that determination. Can we mentally picture God kneeling down in the dirt, placing Adam's every part where He wanted it and determining how every part would function with every other system in his body? Even everyday realities such as these need a functioning Creator to bring them to pass.

The need for a relationship with our Creator is beginning to emerge. [II Corinthians 5:17](#) carries the need of the creative relationship a major step further: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." We are now a new creation, a spiritual creation. A process begun in Eden continues.

When Paul wrote about a "new" creation, he had his choice of two Greek words. One expresses newness in the sense of "renovation." However, Paul used the second term, which suggests new in the sense of "brand new." He indicates, then, a person as a new individual with a new family, a new set of values, new motivations, and new possessions. Nothing new in this sense creates itself. Even a new baby in a womb does not make itself. The baby has absolutely no idea what it is in process of becoming.

Are we making ourselves spiritually? As a new creation in Christ [Jesus](#), we are no more making ourselves spiritually than we did physically. However, this creation is far more difficult and important because it requires our mindful and willing *cooperation* with our Creator.

How clearly and precisely do we foresee where our spiritual Creator is headed? To say it bluntly, without God's calling, which creates the relationship with Him, there is no possibility whatever of knowing anything meaningful about what God is in the process of creating, and therefore no eternal, spiritual salvation would exist. Do we know how to give ourselves everlasting life? Do we know where we will fit into the Creator's finished plan?

Therefore, it is our responsibility always to do whatever is necessary to seek Him and glorify Him, helping to keep the relationship going and knowledge increasing. Without the relationship that He invited us into, there is no possibility of ever accomplishing the end that He is heading toward and yielding to what He desires. It is as though He has opened the gate to allow us back into the Garden of Eden, right into the very source of every good and perfect gift that will enable us to glorify Him by fulfilling our responsibilities to Him. It is as if He says, as He opens the gate, "Now there, let's begin the next step in My overall purpose!"

— John W. Ritenbaugh

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