

Definition of Exchanged Life Terms

Terms can be misleading unless they are clearly defined. The following is a list of terms to study and know to avoid confusion.

Death: Death is the absence of life, not annihilation. The results of death are separation and change of relationship. (Also Rom 5:12-14, 17)

Ephesians 2:1 "You were dead in your trespasses and sins."

Old Man: The unregenerate human spirit which, before salvation, is dead to God and possesses only Adamic life (natural life inherited from Adam). (Also Eph 4:22-24, Col 3:9-10)

Romans 6:6 "Knowing this, your old man was crucified with Him."

New Man: The regenerated human spirit which is born of the Holy Spirit at salvation, created in righteousness and holiness, alive to God and indwelt by the Holy Spirit. (Also John 3:3-6, Ezek 36:25-27)

John 3:3 "Unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Flesh: A way of living out of our resources and strength as if one is independent of God. It is a disposition or attitude inherited in Adam and continually reinforced by oneself, the world, and Satan. (Also Rom 8:5-8, Gal 5:16-21)

Galatians 5:16 Walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh."

In the Flesh: Refers only to the unsaved person. (Also Rom 8:8-9, Eph 2:1-3)

Romans 8:9 "You are not in the flesh but in the Spirit."

After or According to the Flesh: Refers to a way of living in self-sufficiency, which may be evident for either the unsaved or the saved. (Also Rom 8:4-5, 13)

Romans 8:4 "The requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit."

Sins: Actions or attitudes that violate the character and will of God. (Also Rom 6:14-23)

Romans 3:23 "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

Indwelling Sin: A unholy force, or power, that resided within people due to Adam's fall. It dwells within the unredeemed body. It is not part of the believer's identity in his spirit. Indwelling sin tempts people to commit sins. (Also Rom 7:7-25)

Romans 7:17 "No longer am I the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me."

Nature: Nature describes the attributes or essential makeup of a person. A synonym of this definition would be identity. When applied to a person, this definition refers to the spirit, which determines a person's true identity. The saved person is righteous while the unsaved are unrighteous. While the term "nature" is used in the New International Version to refer to the flesh, we prefer using the term flesh. (Also Eph 2:1-3)

2 Pet 1:4 "He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature."

Acceptance: Being welcomed and received without fear of ever being judged, criticized, or rejected. It is a gracious act of God whereby He receives the believer in Christ without any personal merit. Christians are accepted because we have been made righteous in Christ. (Also Eph 1:6 KJV, Rom 8:1, John 5:24, and 2 Cor 5:21)

Romans 15:7 "Accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God."

Total Commitment: A decision of the will, entrusting oneself to God, abandoning all rights unto God, and asking Him to work in one's life in any way He desires. (Also Ps 51:17, Rom 12:1-2)

Romans 12:1 "Present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice."

Surrender: Admitting the bankruptcy of the flesh and suffering the loss of all things invites the Spirit to conform us to Christ's death. (Also Phil 3:8-10)

Philippians 3:8 "I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ."

Identification (Union): Identification is our union with Christ to have a shared life. This union with Christ in His death, burial, resurrection, ascension, and enthronement takes place at salvation. Personal awareness of this union comes only by the illumination of the Holy Spirit. (Also Eph 1:17-23)

1 Corinthians 6:17 "The one who joins himself to the Lord, is one spirit with Him."

Eternal Life (Christ's Life): The life of God, which is without beginning or end. (Also John 17:2-3, 1 John 5:11)

1 John 5:20 "We are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life."

Position: The reality of one's standing before God. Each person has a position of being either spiritual dead in Adam or spiritually alive in Christ. The unsaved are positionally in the flesh. The saved are positionally in the Spirit. (Also Rom 8:8-9)

Romans 8:9 "You are not in the flesh but in the Spirit if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you."

Condition: One's experientially state of living, not being. The condition of living may, or may not, reflect the actual position of the person. (Also Rom 8:8-9)

Romans 8:9 "You are not in the flesh but in the Spirit if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you."