

DENNIS BURKE MUNISTRIES

REDEFINED BY GOD'S DNA

> BY DR. DENNIS BURKE

here are two very different categories of what we can inherit in life. First, there is what we may inherit at the death of a relative or someone close to

NEW

YOU

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us. The person stated in his or her last will and testament the details of what is to be given to us. It is our inheritance.

The second type of inheritance includes the traits we receive at birth. We may have our father's features or our mother's eyes. We are born with a distinct and inimitable combination of inherited characteristics and qualities that are wired into every cell of our bodies. It is in our DNA—the code that makes us who we are.

The spiritual parallels of our physical design reveal some staggering insights that, once understood, help define our lives and reveal our capacity for walking with God.

Physically we are created

with a totally unique system code that defines our every feature. Spiritually the new birth has provided essentially the same thing—a totally unique system that defines everything about who we are and how we function in Christ. We are a brand-new creature in Christ. We are literally born with our Heavenly Father's DNA.

THE WAY TO A NEW LIFE

REA

In the same way Jesus was a perfect reflection of the Father, we as believers have been restored to

God's original intent for His family-to be perfect reflections of Him. It is the revelation of our rightstanding before God that comes by faith in all Jesus has done that gives us the spiritual platform to build upon. It is our rightstanding, or our righteousness in Christ, that provides the backbone for our confident stance of faith.

Notice how Paul laid it out in Colossians 3:10-11 (MSG):

> Now you're dressed in a new wardrobe. Every item of your new way of life is custom-made by the Creator, with his label on it. All the old fashions are now obsolete. Words like Jewish and non-Jewish, religious and irreligious, insider and



outsider, uncivilized and uncouth, slave and free, mean nothing. From now on everyone is defined by Christ, everyone is included in Christ.

Defined by Christ! Yes, we are defined by His Word and His work of redemption. No longer defined by our self-imposed limits, by others' opinions, or by our own fears or failures.

Jesus has delivered us, empowered us, and made us worthy to receive everything His New Covenant provides. We are made whole and in rightstanding in the presence of our Heavenly Father.

We also have set our minds to push back the boundaries we have accepted in the past. Those limits are no longer valid, and we therefore refuse to see ourselves inside the same old boundaries we once accepted as our reality. When we do that, we demean ourselves-and the unintended result is to demean God's work in us as His new creation in Christ.

Take note of how the Mirror Translation states Hebrews 5:13-14:

The revelation of righteousness is the meat of God's word. Babes live on milk; so does everyone who is not pierced in the

ear of his heart by the revelation of Christ. This is the nourishment of the mature. They are those who have their faculties of perception trained as by gymnastic precision to distinguish the relevant from the irrelevant.

The meat of the revelation of Jesus and His righteousness has become the free gift from God to everyone who will receive it. Jesus has empowered anyone who will believe to be restored to God's original design-redefined!

This is exactly what Jesus said as He prayed for us in John 17:15-16 (MSG):

> I'm not asking that you take them out of the world but that you guard them from the Evil One. They are no more defined by the world than I am defined by the world.

Jesus was not defined by the world's limitations, systems, or way of thinking. And He said that we are not defined by them either. We are defined by Christ alone—His anointing and His righteousness.

To define something means to identify the essential qualities of something or to set the limits or boundaries of something. The boundaries

of a piece of property can be defined by its latitude and longitude. A container can be defined by its capacity measured in ounces or gallons.

Too often we define ourselves within the boundary of how far we think we can go in life. We evaluate our capacity, basing it on what others have said about us or what we've been able to accomplish in the past.

So many have accepted limits and boundaries on what they believe God can do through them or for them. But with this one statement, Iesus blasts those limits and boundaries sky high!

"You are no more defined by the world than I am."

Jesus has taken off the limits. He has broken through the barriers that have constrained us, and He has redefined every one of us from the inside out. Now we have His DNA!

This reality is stated again in 1 John 4:17 (TPT):

> By living in God, love has been brought to its full expression in us so that we may fearlessly face the day of judgment, because all that Jesus now is, so are we in this world.

As Jesus is now, so are we in this world. He is in



oice of accusations because sin no longer defines you.

DennisBurkeMinistries.org



UPCOMING MEETINGS



HATTIESBURG, MS | JANUARY 9-11 Victory Church | 1208 East Hardy Street Hattiesburg, MS 39401 | 601-544-8485

SAN ANTONIO, TX | JANUARY 16 Omega Church | 3737 Roosevelt Avenue San Antonio, TX 78214 | 210-923-2220

BROOKLYN PARK, MN | JANUARY 22-23 Living Word Christian Center | 9201 75th Ave North Brooklyn Park, MN 55423 | 763-315-7000

JEFFERSON, SC | JANUARY 30 Faith Family Church | 5779 Mt. Pisgah Road Jefferson, SC 29718 | 808-475-7374

LEBANON, OH | FEBRUARY 27 Faith Building Church | 875 Covenant Way Lebanon, OH 45036 | 513-267-3454

PUNTA GORDA, FL | MARCH 27-29 New Life Family Worship | 28330 Bermont Road Punta Gorda, FL 33982 | 941-639-1700

the presence of the Father. In Him, we are welcome to enter into God's very throne room with a bold confidence. We are free from the nagging voice of accusations. Sin's condemnation has no voice, because sin no longer defines us. We are no longer sinners. We have a new nature—His nature born within. This gives us the confidence to fellowship with Him, knowing we belong.

It is in our meditation of God's Word that these

insights will revolutionize our thinking. The more we allow the Word of God to change how we see ourselves, the greater freedoms we will begin to experience.

James gives us a final exhortation that is vital:

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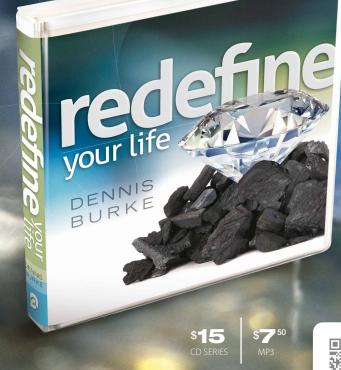
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You now identify with the spiritual **DNA** of Jesus — not that of the world.



Why does the abundant life Jesus promised always seem just out of reach

for many Christians? How we see ourselves makes all the difference. Continue this study in more depth with this 3-part CD series.





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If you listen to the Word and don't live out the message you hear, you become like the person who looks in the mirror of the Word to discover the reflection of his face in the beginning. You perceive how God sees you in the mirror of the Word,

but then you go out and forget your divine origin.

James 1:23-24 TPT

Once you grasp this truth of how God's DNA defines the way He has made you in Him, you must not let this new image of yourself be forgotten. Keep the revelation of this new image in the forefront of your mind. Deliberately choose to see this "new you" living a new life in Christ by the power He has deposited within you.

