

January Theme: A New Creation

2 Corinthians 5:17

In the Greek New Testament there are 2 words that are translated as “new”. The first is ‘kainos’ which indicated “newness in form”. It is the difference between types. For example: the difference between a bicycle and a jet. The Jet is a completely new type of transportation in relation to the bicycle.



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2 Corinthians 5:17 [ESV]

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a **new creation**. The **old** has passed away; behold, the **new** has come.

The Greek word “**kainos**” is used for ‘new’ in both instances in this verse.

January Theme: A New Creation

2 Corinthians 5:17

The other word is 'neos'. It indicates newness in the chronology of time. A new born baby is new in comparison to an adult. The result is not that there is substantial difference but a progression difference.



Ephesians 4:20-24 [ESV]

20 But that is not the way you learned Christ! —
21 assuming that you have heard about him and
were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus,
22 to put off your old self [man], which belongs to
your former manner of life and is corrupt through
deceitful desires,
23 and to be renewed [ana-neoo] in the spirit of
your minds,
24 and to put on the new [kainon] self [man],
created after the likeness of God in true
righteousness and holiness.

“The New You” Ephesians 4:20-24 & Colossians 3:9-11

In Ephesians 4:20-24 and Colossians 3:9-11, Paul uses both words to describe the Christian's condition after conversion. In Ephesians 4, he tells Christians that since they have turned a corner in their life and they need to move forward into the life and purpose of Christ. Yet he also instructs us to “put on” the ‘new man’ who is substantially different than the ‘old man’ we were.



New Year's Card early 1900s

“The New You” Ephesians 4:20-24 & Colossians 3:9-11

This struggle for Christian identity demands both understandings of our “new” condition in Christ. We are both quantitatively and qualitatively different because of the work of Jesus Christ in us.



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1 Peter 2:1-3 [ESV]

1 So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander.

2 Like **newborn** infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation —

3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

“The New You”

***Ephesians 4:20-24 & Colossians
3:9-11***

“Father Time” or the “Old Man” time is contrasted with the “infant New Year”. The Old Man wears the sack cloth of mourning and carries the scythe of death. These images are ancient. Going back to Roman times. It was during the middle ages when these ideas were cemented into Western culture.



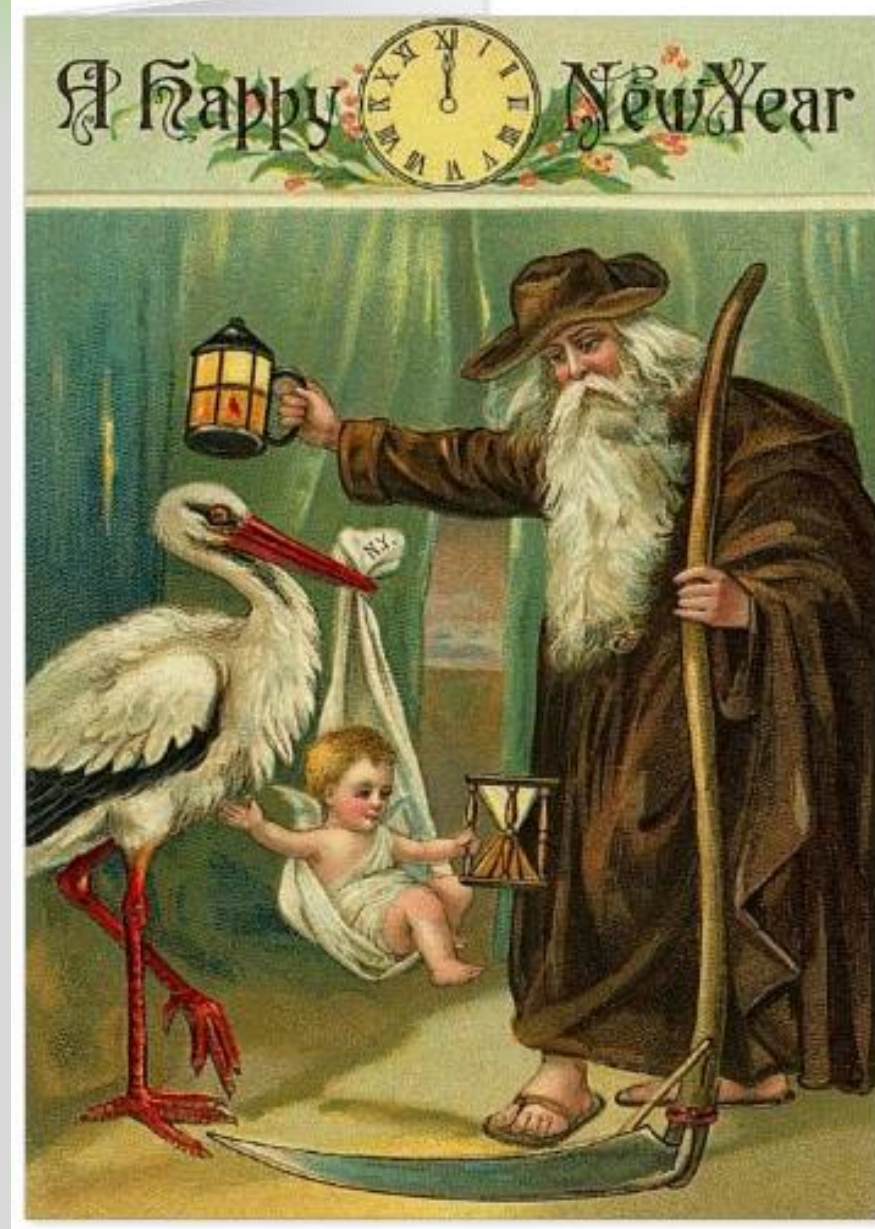
*“Father Time” contrasted with “the
New Year, late 1800s.*

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“The New You”

***Ephesians 4:20-24 & Colossians
3:9-11***

The newness that Peter describes indicates progression in our relationship with Jesus Christ. Growing and developing spiritually in this new nature. In Ephesians 4, Paul tells us to have our minds “renewed” in the senses of chronological change.



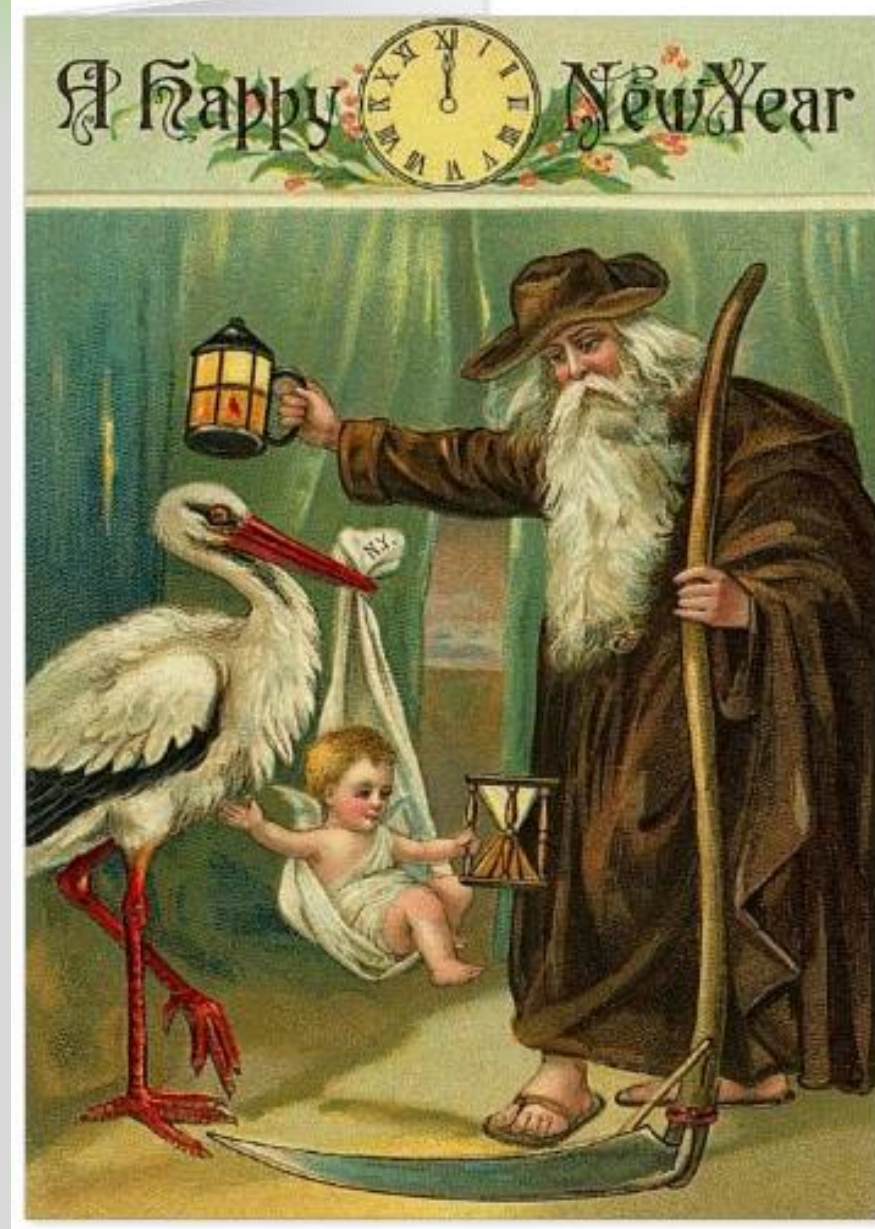
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“The New You”

***Ephesians 4:20-24 & Colossians
3:9-11***

Paul’s use of “old” man comes from a word that means “worn out by use”. This is directly contrasted in both senses against the concept of “new”. In Ephesians 4 Paul tells us that the character of this “old” man is inconsistent with the teaching of Christ. And is a reflection of an older pattern of life.



***“Father Time” contrasted with
“the New Year, late 1800s.***

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Psalm 51:10 [ESV]

Create in me a clean heart,
O God, and **renew [eg-
kainison]** a right spirit
within me.

“The New You”

***Ephesians 4:20-24 & Colossians
3:9-11***

In verse 22 of Ephesians 4, Paul tells us to “put off” the conduct of life. The Greek word means to “throw away”. Paul views our pre-Christian lifestyle as “corrupting” because it does 2 things it ‘wallows’ in deceit and selfish desires. The passing of time only leads to deeper frustrations in both of these areas.



This depiction of “Father Time” from 1889 is far more sinister in the relation to the New Year infant.

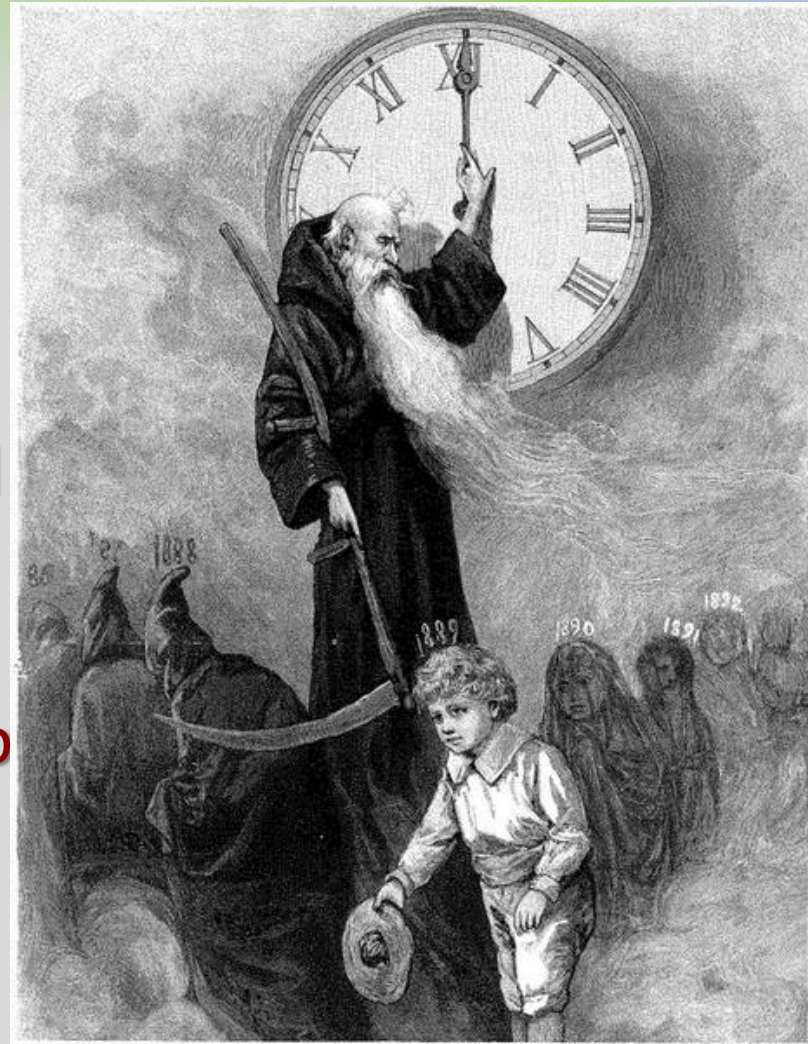
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“The New You”

***Ephesians 4:20-24 & Colossians
3:9-11***

David started as a man after God's own heart, but his deceitfulness and desires corrupted that relationship causing him to commit adultery and murder. In verse 10 of Psalm 51, he cries out to God to “create a clean heart and renew a right spirit”. In the ancient Greek translation of this psalm the same words for “creation” and “new” are used as in 2 Corinthians 5:17

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This depiction of “Father Time” from 1889 is far more sinister in the relation to the New Year infant.

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Ezekiel 11:19

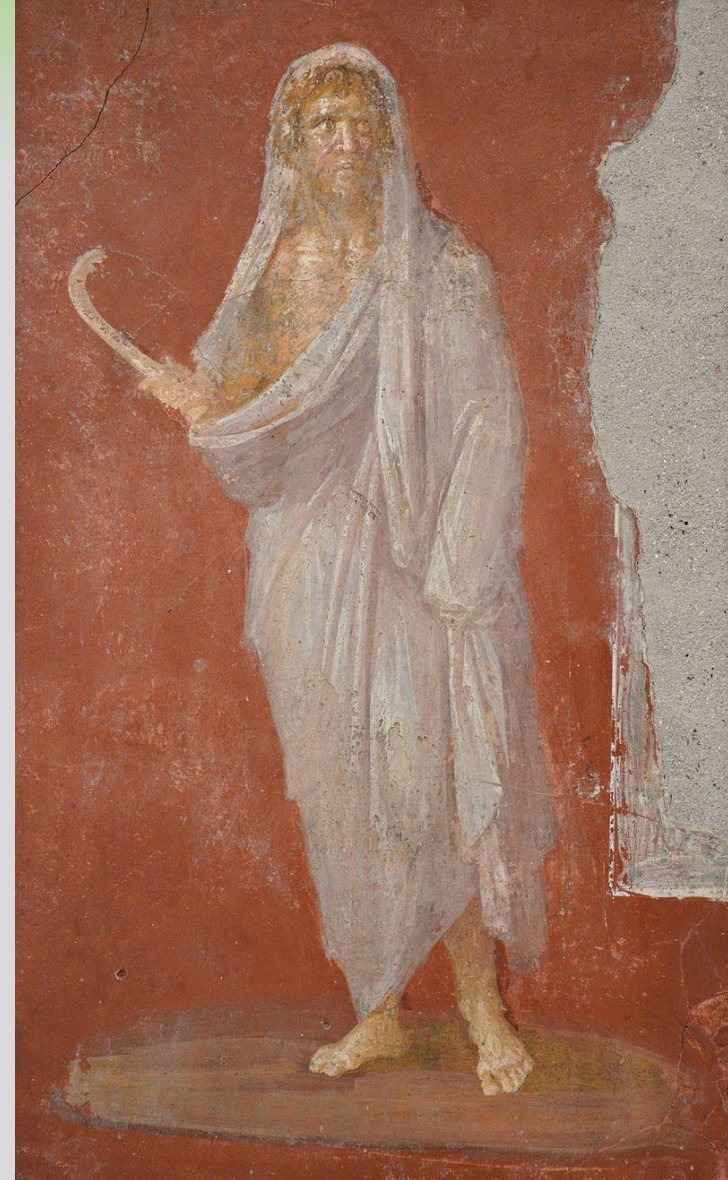
And I will give them one heart, and a **new [kainon]** spirit I will put within them. I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, ...

“The New You”

***Ephesians 4:20-24 & Colossians
3:9-11***

Saturn is the model for “Father Time” he was an ancient Roman deity of the underworld or production and harvest as well as time. He corresponded to the Greek god Chronos. Unlike Chronos who was despised for chaos, Saturn was celebrated for his harvest and bringing of new life. The Saturnalia [Dec. 21-23] was a time of ordered chaos and desire. His worship also included gladiatorial death contests.

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*The Roman god Saturn from Pompeii note the Sycle in his hand. **Jan. 1, 2023***

"The New You"

Ephesians 4:20-24 & Colossians

3:9-11

Julius Caesar established January

1st as the New Year, thus Saturnalia

imagery and practices became associated with the new year. In

1582 the Gregorian calendar, based

on the Julian calendar, established

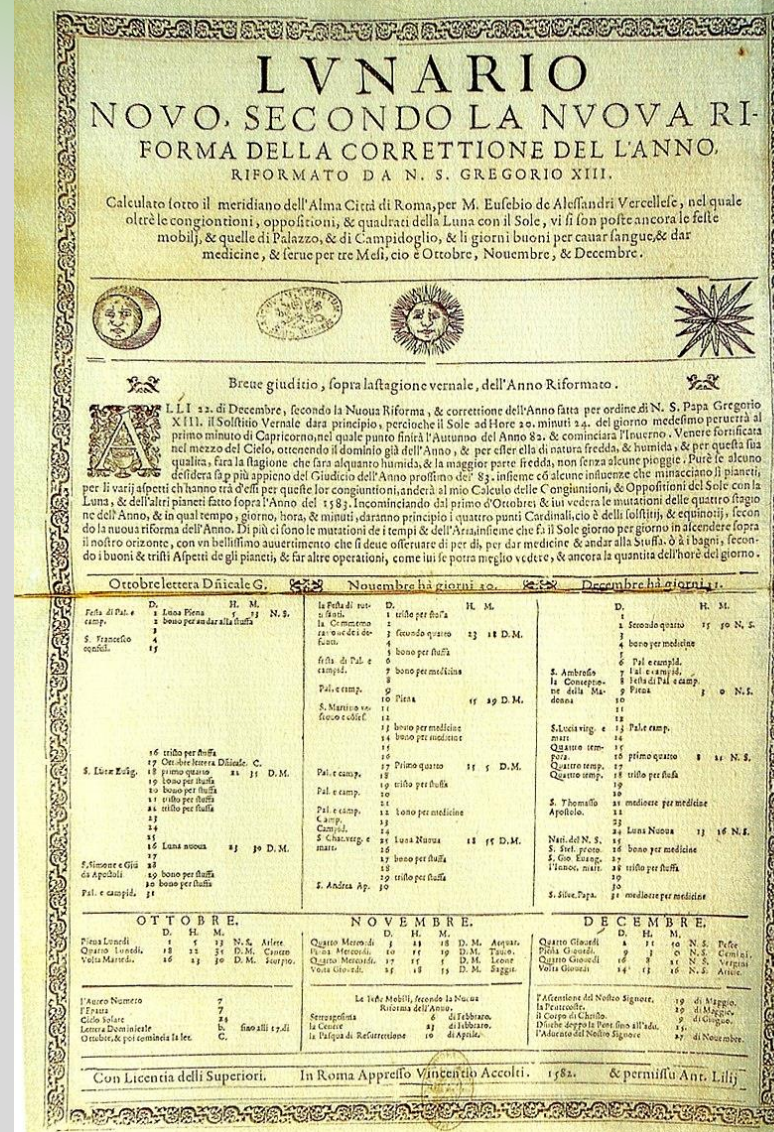
this. This calendar was adopted worldwide due to its accuracy. Old

Man Time has taken on a more

sinister character in Western

culture. God purposes to change our hearts in Christ Jesus.

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1st printing of the Gregorian calendar of 1582.

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Colossians 3:9-11 [ESV]

9 Do not **lie** to one another, seeing that you have **put off** the **old** self [man] with its **practices**

10 and have **put on** the **new** [neon] self [man], which is being **renewed** [ana-kainoumenon] in knowledge after the **image** of its **creator**.

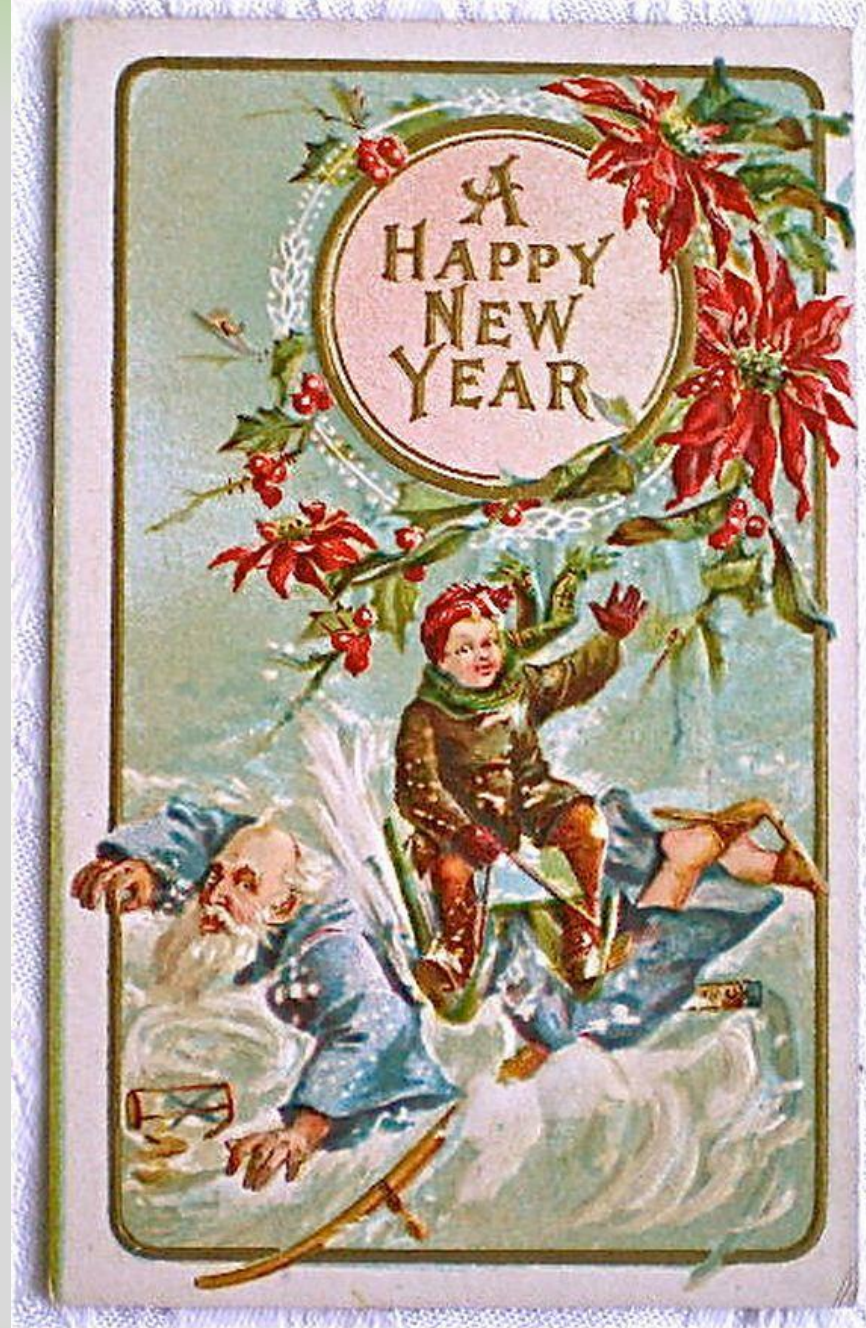
11 **Here there is not Greek and Jew**, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but **Christ is all, and in all**.

“The New You”

***Ephesians 4:20-24 & Colossians
3:9-11***

Paul in Colossians uses much the same language as in Ephesians when discussing our old nature before coming to Christ. We are told to discard that nature and its practices. Which he again identifies with deception and selfish practices. In Ephesians he urged us to put on the new man in the sense of “new kind of person”.

This New Year card shows the infant New Year running down “Old Man Time”

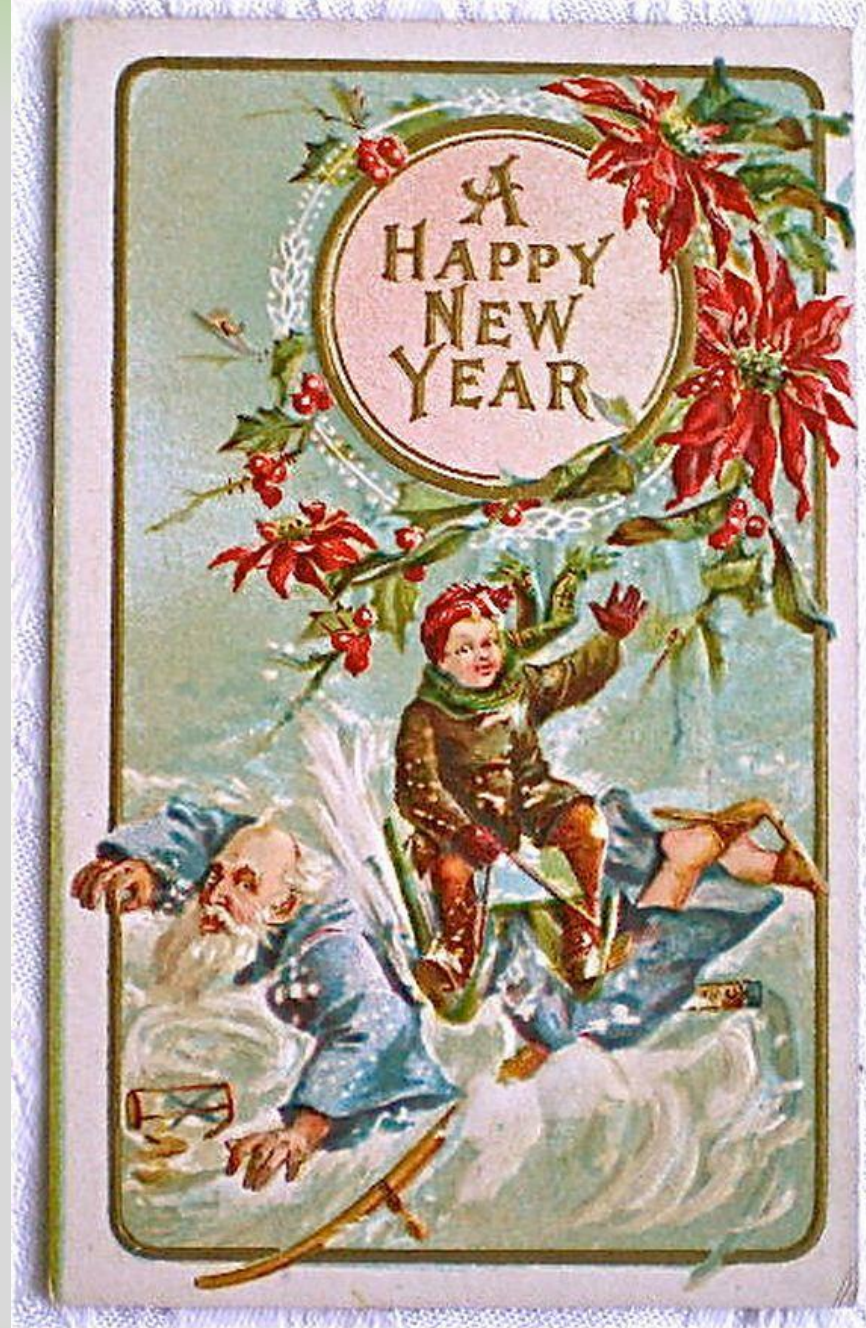


“The New You”

***Ephesians 4:20-24 & Colossians
3:9-11***

Here in Colossians he tells us to put on the new person in the sense of a having a change in maturity due to our relationship with Christ as we progress in our new image made like our Creator through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

This New Year card shows the infant New Year running down “Old Man Time”



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Romans 6:4-6 [ESV]

4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in **newness** of life.

5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

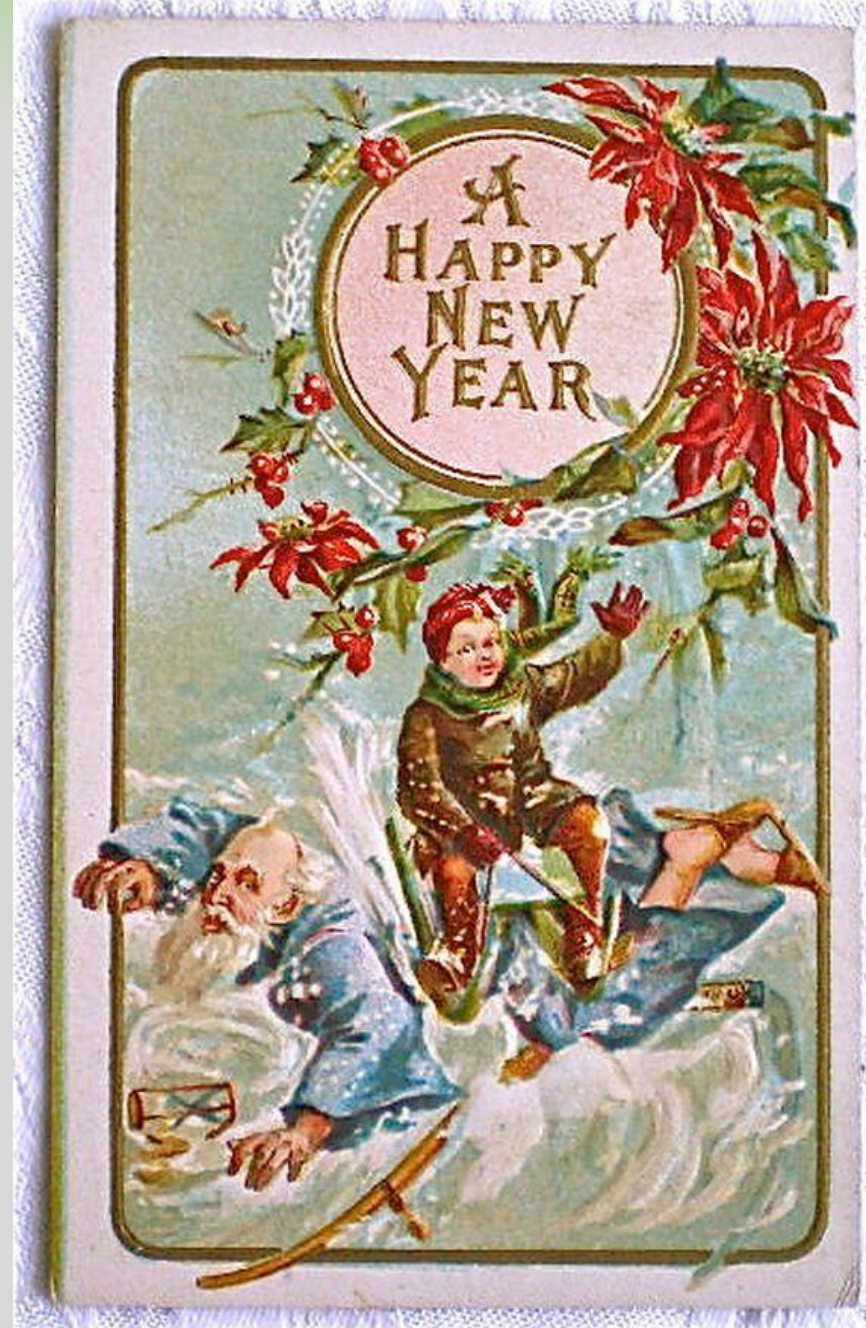
6 We know that our **old self** was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.

“The New You”

***Ephesians 4:20-24 & Colossians
3:9-11***

The word “image” in Colossians is the word “icon” which means a stamped out image. Jesus Christ has left his maker’s mark on us. Thus we walk in newness of life. We are not the same person we were before we committed our life to Jesus Christ.

This New Year card shows the infant New Year running down “Old Man Time”



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Ezekiel 36:26 [ESV]

And I will give you a **new [kaine'n]** heart, and a **new [kainon]** spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

“The New You”

***Ephesians 4:20-24 & Colossians
3:9-11***

In Ezekiel 36:26 God tells his broken people who have failed and been sent into Exile due to their self-deceit and selfish desires that he intends to wash them and give to them a change of heart and change of spirit. Paul tells us in Ephesians 4:24 that such a change will lead to truth in the the way we conduct ourselves as we persue righteousness and holiness.

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*This New Year card is from the
early 1900s*

Jan. 1, 2023

January Theme: A New Creation
2 Corinthians 5:17

In Jesus
Christ we
are new
creations!

