Firm Foundations

9) A New Creation

Our old nature

'And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience...

"...among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others' (Eph. 2:1-3)

Our new nature

We were baptized into Christ and became 'partakers of the divine nature'

(2 Pet.1:4)

'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new'

(2 Cor.5:17)

'He who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him' (1 Cor.6:17)

'Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous. He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God' (1 John 3:7-9)

But Christians do still sin

Our identity is in Christ; it's who we now are in Him. It is what we are in our spirit

We are 'the spirits of just men made perfect'
(Heb. 12:23)

Our behaviour takes place in the realm of our body, our flesh

'Now if I do what I will not to do, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me... For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members' (Rom.7:20,22-23)

Look in the mirror to see what is true about you!

'And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness'

(Rom.8:10)

'For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was' (James 1:23-24)

'But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord'

(2 Cor.3:18)