

You Were Crucified With Christ

Colossians 3:2, “Set your mind on **things above**, not on things on the earth.”

When we are going through very difficult trials and even storms in life, we need to keep our minds on things above, not the things here on earth so much.

Why do things with God work this way?

Revelation 21:6, 7,

“6 And He said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.

7 “He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.”

Notice in Revelation 21:6 it says “It is done!” Yet in verse 21:7 there is a condition to inherit the finished work of Jesus. What is that? Overcoming! Verse 21:8 says one has to believe.

It is like your parents leaving you an inheritance in their will and then some criminal takes you to court and contests the will. The criminal has no right to your inheritance but you must believe enough to overcome his efforts.

Think about this when you need to overcome! You Were Crucified With Christ.

Galatians 2:20 says,

“20 “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

Alive with God in me. As I was writing this chapter/lesson [years ago] the Lord spoke to me very clearly as I awoke in the middle of the night. He said, “You are correct in expressing the fact that My people have been crucified with Me, but you are missing the thought that will give them real comfort and power. That is the idea in the second part of Galatians 2:20 which says,

‘but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.’”

Immediately I felt and knew a peace and comfort that transcended human logic. I knew I had to share this with you, the reader. Imagine that! The Creator is alive in you! Meditate on that truth. Think about it, read it, confess it, believe it, and your life will change.

How could I have been crucified with Christ?

His crucifixion took place almost 2,000 years before I was even born. This is one of the most important blessings that God has given to us and we need to meditate on the Scriptures so that we can appropriate the blessing.

My father escaped slavery from Muslims in Eastern Europe in the early 1900s. He escaped and worked his way across Europe to England, where he stowed away on the

Titanic in 1912. Just before the ship left port, the security police found my dad way down in the lowest part of the ship, and escorted him off. He then found employment and paid for a passage to the USA. I was “in” my father as a sperm. Had he died I would have also died on the Titanic.

The Word of God is the spiritual sperm or seed.

1 Peter 1:23-25 Amplified Bible says,

You have been regenerated (born again), not from a mortal origin (seed, sperm), but from one that is immortal by the ever living and lasting Word of God.

For all flesh (mankind) is like grass, and all its glory (honor) like [the] flower of grass. The grass withers and the flower drops off,

But the Word of the Lord (divine instruction, the Gospel) endures forever. And this Word is the good news which was preached to you.

Mary received the spiritual sperm of the Word for the birth of Jesus. But like all of us, when we are offered the seed, the sperm, of the Word, we must like Mary receive it and welcome it. Otherwise it will not take root and bear the intended fruit.

Luke 1:35, 37-38 says,

“35 And the angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.”

“37 “For with God nothing will be impossible.”

38 Then Mary said, “Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.”

We had to die before we could be born again.

When we were reborn or regenerated we inherited a new Father. We changed our race.

W.E. Vine Bible Dictionary defines the Greek word (one of the two definitions) “Father” as “Pater,” from a root signifying a nourisher, protector, upholder, the nearest ancestor, the progenitor of the race of people; the originator of a family or company of persons animated by the same spirit as himself. Regeneration is from two words: “palin” means again, and “genesis” means birth. Palingenis or regeneration is actually changing who your Father is.

We needed a new progenitor. We needed an originator of a family or company of persons *animated* by the same spirit as himself. When I saw that explanation in the W.E. Vine Bible Dictionary, I got excited. If God becomes our Pater, then through the insertion of His Spirit into our body His Spirit animates us. That changes our race, our inheritance, our lot in life, what we have coming, our very nature. The world thought it was amazing when in the 1960s, in South Africa, a man actually received a heart transplant. What would they have thought if they had known of a LIFE TRANSPLANT?

So how does this happen?

God set up creation so that life is in the blood.

Leviticus 17:11 says,

“11 ‘For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul.’”

What about the time factor? We were not there 2000 years ago when Jesus shed His blood.

One very important factor to always keep in mind when pondering the things of God is that He lives in eternity. Eternity is not a long time it transcends time. God has multiple time dimensions. We have only one time dimension. God has multiple space dimensions and we have only three. God is in the past, present and future all at the same time. Therefore, it does not matter what time you live in, the eternal Spirit of God takes you back to that day when Jesus was tortured to death on the Cross of Calvary.

One Scripture that illustrates this is Hebrews 9:14 which says,

“14 how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”

Our files are in Heaven.

Hebrews 12:23 Amplified Bible says,

“23 And to the church (assembly) of the Firstborn who are registered [as citizens] in heaven, and to the God Who is Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous (the redeemed in heaven) who have been made perfect,”

Psalms 87:4-7 says,

“4 “I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to those who know Me; Behold, O Philistia and Tyre, with Ethiopia: ‘This one was born there.’”

5 And of Zion it will be said, “This one and that one were born in her; And the Most High Himself shall establish her.”

6 The LORD will record, When He registers the peoples: “This one was born there.” Selah

7 Both the singers and the players on instruments say, “All my springs are in you.””

If my new birth certificate is a public record in the files of Heaven, the so must be my death certificate show that I have died with Christ.

That is about as close as I can come to an example of dying in someone before you were born. Like we were all in Adam, the Bible says that Jesus is the Last Adam.

If you think about it from a physical and spiritual sense, the Holy Spirit will make it real to you as He has to me.

Reckon yourselves dead. What are the blessings?

Romans 6:11 says,

“11 Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

What are you dead to? What are you alive to?

1. Dead to the old you, the person who has been abused and rejected by others.

Multitudes of people have been abused and rejected. Abuse and rejection of any kind causes deep inner wounds in our soul that can only be healed by Jesus and forgiveness. Jesus made it possible for you to be healed by Himself being rejected and bearing that for you. Your new “you” is free from the pain of abuse and rejection if you allow Jesus to heal you.

2. Dead to the old you, the person who continually sins and cannot stop.

I remember back in the 1980s hearing an old preacher say that he did not have to sin any longer because he had been crucified and has died with Christ. I said, “I want that.” That Lord showed me that it was not enough to believe with my mind, but that truth had to go down into my heart. I needed to make the decision to believe the Word with my mind, and as I did, it went into my heart.

3. Dead to your old self-centered ways.

Your primary purposed for staying here on earth after you were born again is to bring in the Kingdom of God and God’s will. “Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven,”

4. Dead to the power of evil.

If you have been crucified with Christ and Christ now lives in you, what power does evil have over you? No matter what comes your way from satanic forces, it is illegal and you have the right to reconcile it into something that is a blessing, and to destroy the spiritual attacker.

After death the real power starts with resurrection, but is complete in the ascension.

Knowing and reckoning that you have been crucified with Christ is great, but the real peace and power to live a God-pleasing victorious life is in the fact that Christ now lives in you. This has to do with resurrection and its power. Not only does the resurrected Christ live in you, but the ascended One lives in you. You are seated with Him in Heavenly places, Ephesians 2:6. Ascension gave Him and now you power over spiritual enemies

If you are trying your best to live a God-pleasing life, then Satan will make sure that you are constantly under attack. Spiritual warfare is real. Satanic forces have been around for thousands of years and are very skilled at bringing God’s people down with negative thoughts and circumstances. The schemes of the devil are real as documented in Ephesians chapter 6:11 Amplified Bible,

“11 Put on Gods whole armor [the armor of a heavy- armed soldier which God supplies], that you may be able successfully to stand up against [all] the strategies and the deceits of the devil.”

Philippians chapter 1:28-30 and 2:5-11 - Amplified Bible, gives us great truths about this idea

1;28 And do not [for a moment] be frightened or intimidated in anything by your opponents and adversaries, for such [constancy and fearlessness] will be a clear sign (proof and seal) to them of [their impending] destruction, but [a sure token and evidence] of your deliverance and salvation, and that from God.

29 For you have been granted [the privilege] for Christ's sake not only to believe in (adhere to, rely on, and trust in) Him, but also to suffer in His behalf.

30 So you are engaged in the same conflict which you saw me [wage] and which you now hear to be mine [still].

*"2:5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,
6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,*

7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.

8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,

10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,

11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Chapter 4 KEY. Notice that it is only by faith that we can live a life that is crucified, resurrected and ascended. If we don't maintain our faith, we will not realize the benefits of having been crucified with Christ and of Christ in us. How do we obtain faith? Romans 10:17 says that faith comes by hearing God speak. Now I urge you to go back and review chapters one and two to refresh your memory on how to continually hear God speak. It's all about totally abandoning your life to the living God.