

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:105).

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FOR THE RECORD

Sunday Bible Study	21
Sunday AM Worship	33
Sunday PM Worship	18
Wed. Bible Study	12
Offering	\$1581

woman, born under the law,⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" ⁷ Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ" (Galatians 3:26-4:7). Those who are with and in their sin, have no inheritance. Paul wrote, "For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God" (Ephesians 5:5; cf. I Corinthians 6:9; Galatians 5:19-21).

As a faithful son, then we are an heir and we will inherit eternal life. Matthew 19:29 says, "every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren/sisters/father/mother/wife/children/lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life." Paul told the Ephesian elders in Acts 20:32 "And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, & to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified" (cf. 26:18). Peter reminded us that our inheritance is "incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in in heaven for you" (I Peter 1:4).

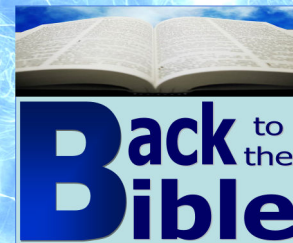
SUFFER WITH CHRIST:

To suffer with Christ means we endure persecutions for His sake. Matthew 5:10-12 "Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake..." Jesus warned His disciples, "...If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you... But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake..." (John 15:20-21).

When we choose to live the new life, the world does not understand it and therefore, persecutes us for it (cf. I Peter 4:4). However, when we suffer with Christ, we also are glorified with Him (cf. Romans 8:17)

REIGN WITH CHRIST:

Paul wrote to Timothy that "This is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: ¹² If we suffer, we shall also reign with him..." (II Timothy 2:11-12). John wrote in Revelation 20:6, "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years." How do we reign? Just as He was victorious over death, so are we.



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Times of Services:

Sunday

Bible Study:... 10:00am
AM Worship...11:00am
PM Worship:...6:00pm
2nd Sunday:.....1:30pm

Wednesday

Bible Study:.....7:00pm

Radio Program

Sunday:.....7:30am
"Back to the Bible"
AM 580 WSKS
93.5 FM

**We Extend A
Warm & Cordial
Welcome
To All Our
Visitors!**

"...WITH CHRIST"

Tim Canup

The word "with," has the idea of, one person or thing accompanied by another person or thing. The phrase "with Christ" or "with Him" is used numerous times in our New Testaments. Let us look at these and see what we can learn.

DIED/CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST:

In Romans 6:8, Paul wrote, "Now if we died with Christ..." and back in verse 5 we read, "For if we have been planted {literally, united} together in the likeness of his death..." Just as Christ died, we, too, must die (spiritually) to sin, that is, cease living in sin. The word "death" simply means a separation; in this sense, it is a separation from sin. Consider these other passages of Paul: Galatians 2:20, "I am crucified with Christ..."; Ephesians 2:1b "...dead in trespasses and sins"; verse 5 "dead in sins"; Colossians 2:13a "And you, being dead in your sins..." As long as a person is living in sin, then they are dead in sin. However, we must die TO Sin, that is, cease a life of sin. Paul wrote in Romans 6 "How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?" (verse 2); "knowing this, that our old man was crucified with *Him*, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. ⁷ For he who has died has been freed from sin" (verses 6-7); "Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin..." (verse 11a). Only when we die with Christ can we begin to remedy the sin problem. Death is not enough, there must be a burial.

Continued Inside

BURIED WITH CHRIST:

Just cease sinning (that is, dying to sins) is not enough. Though a person has stopped sinning, the record of sin is still there. When we die with Christ is just the first step. We simply cannot continue in sin and be united with Christ; there must be a burial. We understand the concept, anything that dies, needs to be buried. Again, in Roman 6 we read, “Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? ⁴Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death...” (verses 3-4a). In Colossians 2:12, Paul wrote, “buried with Him in baptism...”

There are many who deny that baptism is a necessary step in God’s plan to save man from sin. However, just as Christ died, we must die and just as He was buried, we, too, must be buried. Then and only then can we be raised. Without a burial there simply is no resurrection. Paul gave us the definition of the Gospel in I Corinthians 15:1-3; that it is how Christ died, was buried and rose again the third day, all according to the Scriptures. Then in Romans 6:17, Paul spoke of the “like form of doctrine,” which is explained back in verses 3-6, when we die to sin and are buried with Christ in baptism and then God raises us again. Therefore, burial is part of the “form of doctrine,” which is baptism, thus baptism is part of God’s plan to save.

MADE ALIVE WITH CHRIST:

Think with me for a moment about our resurrection. In Ephesians 1:19-20, Paul spoke of the “exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, ²⁰Which he worked in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places.” Then in 2:1 is the reference to “dead in sin;” verses 4-6 says, “But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, ⁵Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)⁶ And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.” Again in Romans 6, Paul wrote, “Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. ⁵For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be *in the likeness of His resurrection*” (verses 4-5).

Our resurrection is the new birth. In John 3:3, 5, Jesus made it clear that we MUST be born again, “of water and of the Spirit.” The reference, to any honest thinking person, is a reference to baptism. When we are baptized, we are buried and when buried, God then raises us up to “newness of life.” That is a new birth. When we have a new birth, then there is a new creature. It is only then one becomes a member of family, that is, a child of God. Colossians 3:1 “If {literally, since} ye then be risen w/Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.”

LIVE WITH CHRIST:

Once we have been made alive in Christ, then we are to live a new life. There is a

continual action in the process. Becoming a Christian occurs in the waters of baptism; however, it is not the end of the line. God has requirements for us in living the new life.

This new life is one where we do not continue practicing sin; we certainly do not resurrect the old man that we just put to death. “Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with *Him*, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. ⁷For he who has died has been freed from sin. ⁸Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, ⁹knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. ¹⁰For *the death* that He died, He died to sin once for all; but *the life* that He lives, He lives to God. ¹¹Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹²Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. ¹³And do not present your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness to God. ¹⁴For sin shall not have dominion over you...” (Romans 6:6-14a). Again in Galatians 2:20, Paul wrote, “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: & the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, & gave himself for me.” He said in II Timothy 2:11, “*This is a faithful saying*: For if we died with *Him*, We shall also live with *Him*”; and I Thessalonians 5:10 “who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.”

HEIRS WITH CHRIST:

As Children of God, then are we heirs. Romans 8:17a “And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ...” An heir is “a person legally entitled to the property or rank of another on that person's death.” Under the Old Covenant, only sons inherited with the firstborn receiving a double portion. However, under the New Testament, Paul said we all are sons. Paul wrote: “For you are all sons {KJV has “children” but it is literally “sons” in the Greek} of God through faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you *are* Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise. ^{4:1}Now I say *that* the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, ²but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father. ³Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world. ⁴But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Dec 5 – Men’s Business Meeting & Ladies’ Bible Class after Evening Worship
- Dec 12 – Preach-N-Eat & 1:30 Worship Service
- Dec 26 – Prayer Service after Evening Worship
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell