

## IDENTIFICATION WITH CHRIST

### I. WHAT DO WE MEAN BY IDENTIFICATION?

- A. By identification we mean that God identified us with Christ in His redemptive work (death, burial, resurrection, etc.).
- B. Webster's Collegiate Dictionary says to identify means to make identical, to consider or treat as the same. God considered us to have died with Christ, to have been buried and raised, etc.

### II. This identification of us with Christ is based on two facts:

- A. Jesus was our Substitute, acting in our place, so that we were accredited with what He did. "God puts his love for us beyond all doubt by the fact that Christ died on our behalf while we were still sinners" (Rom 5:8). What he did was set down to our account, since it was done for us (on our behalf).
  - 1. 2 Cor 5:14.
    - a. (Weymouth). For the love of Christ overmasters us, the conclusion at which we have arrived being this--that One having died for all, His death was their death.
    - b. (Good News). We are ruled by the love of Christ, now that we recognize that one man died for everyone, which means that they all share in his death.
    - c. (Way). To this conclusion have we come: one died for the sake of all: in Him then did all die.
  - 2. 2 Cor. 5:19.
- B. Jesus became exactly what we were in spirit, so that God viewed Him as being us. He was treated as though he were us. We were identified with Him.
  - 1. 2 Cor 5:21. For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.
    - a. (Jerusalem). For our sake God made the sinless one into sin.
    - b. (Translator's N. T.). God made him to be sin itself in our behalf.
    - c. (Living Bible). For God took the sinless Christ and poured into him our sins.
  - 2. Is 53:9.
  - 3. Mat 27:46.

### III. Now here are the Scriptures, various renderings, and some confessions to make covering each stage of this work:

- A. I was crucified with Christ.
  - 1. Gal 2:20.
  - 2. (Beck) I was crucified with Christ. By His cross I have been crucified to the world and the world has been crucified to me. I am in the world but not of the world. The world holds no delusions and holds no sway over me. (The cross with its shame and reproach meant absolute separation from the world--its glamour and deceitfulness). I have been crucified to

the world with Christ.

3. Galatians 6:14. But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.
4. Romans 6:6. Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.
  - a. (Way). This we recognize, that our former self was nailed to His cross with Him, so that the body which was the instrument of sin might be made impotent for evil, so that we could not any longer be slaves of sin.
  - b. (Amplified). ...our old (unrenewed) self was nailed to the cross with Him in order that (our) body which is the instrument of sin might be made ineffective and inactive for evil...
5. Confession: my old self was crucified with Christ. My old being was crucified with Him. My old nature was crucified with Him. The old person I used to be was nailed to the cross with Him. I am a new self, a new being, a new creation. My sinful nature has been wiped out. I am no longer addicted to sin. My body is no longer the instrument of sin. My body has been made impotent and inactive for evil. I am no longer a slave of sin. Sin's tyranny over me has been broken. My old self, my old being, my old nature was crucified with Christ. I know and recognize the fact that my old self was crucified with Christ. The old       (name)       was crucified with Christ.

B. I died with Christ.

1. Romans 6:8. Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him.
  - a. (Weymouth). But, seeing that we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him.
  - b. (Living Bible). And since your old sin-loving nature “died” with Christ, we know that you will share His new life.
  - c. (Moffat). We believe that as we have died with Christ...
  - d. Confession: My old self died with Him. I shared in His death. His death was my death. My old nature died with Him. I died with Him to the world, to sin, and to sickness. I now share His life. I died with Christ.
2. Colossians 2:20. Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances.
  - a. (Amplified). If then you have died with Christ to material ways of looking at things and have escaped from the world's crude and elemental notions and teachings of externalism, why do you live as if you still belong to the world?
  - b. (Good News). You have died with Christ and are set free from the ruling spirits of the universe.
  - c. (Living Bible). Since you died, as it were, with Christ...

- d. Confession. I have died with Christ. I died with Him to the world's way of looking at things. I have parted company with worldly principles. I am no longer dominated by the world. I am no longer under the world's control. I died with Christ. I died with Him to the curse of the law He bore for me. I died to sin, sickness, and poverty.
  - 3. Colossians 3:3. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.
    - a. Confession. I have died and my life is now hid with Christ in God. I died with Christ to this world and the things of this world. My desire for this world died with Christ. My real life, my true self, is hid with Christ in God. I have entered with Christ into the secret life of God. My new self is hidden from human sight in union with Christ, in the being of God.
  - 4. Romans 6:10,11. For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
    - a. (Way). In respect of His death, He passed by dying, once for all, out of the sphere of sin; but, in respect of His new life, he is living in relation to God. In the same manner you also are to account yourselves to be, in relation to sin, dead men; but in relation to God, living men, whose life is absorbed in the life of the Messiah, Jesus.
    - b. (Wade). So you, too, must count yourselves dead men who have finished with sin, yet fully alive to serve God in union with Christ Jesus.
    - c. Confession. I died to everything Christ died to. Just as Christ died and passed once for all out of the sphere of sin, in the same manner I account myself to be dead to sin. I consider myself, I count myself, I think of myself, I see myself as actually dead to the power of sin. Since Jesus died to sickness as well as sin, and I died with him. I died to sickness also. I died with Him to the dominion of sin, the world, and sickness. I am alive to God. I have the life of God in me. My life is absorbed in the life of Jesus. I am fully alive to serve God in union with Christ. I am alive to righteousness; I am alive to health.
- C. I was buried with Christ.
- 1. Romans 6:4. Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
    - a. (Moffat). Our baptism in his death made us share his burial, so that, as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live and move in the new sphere of Life.
    - b. (Living Bible). Your old sin-loving nature was buried with Him by baptism when he died, and when God the Father, with glorious power, brought Him back to life again, you were given His

- wonderful new life to enjoy.
- c. Confession. The person I used to be was entombed with Christ. My diseases and bondages were sealed away in the tomb with Him. Just as He was raised by the father's glorious power, I, too, walk in possession of His wonderful new life. That life is in me and controls me. I live and move in a new sphere--of life. His own resurrection life is in me. The life that enabled Him to conquer hell and Satan is in me. I am free from all He became and bore for me including sin, sickness, poverty, and bondage.
2. Romans 6:5. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection.
    - a. (Translator's N.T.). For if we have been identified with him in a death like his, we shall also be identified with him in a resurrection like his.
    - b. Confession. I have become a part of Him, having died with Him, and having been buried with Him. I now share His new resurrection life, having also been raised with Him.
  3. Colossians 2:12. Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.
    - a. Confession. Water baptism represented my identification in His burial and resurrection. I was buried with Him; I was raised with Him. My past was buried with Him. My diseases were buried with Him. My failures and bondages were buried with Him. I now have new victorious risen life in me. I am a partner in the power and life of His resurrection.
- D. I was made alive with Christ. (He was made alive in spirit before He was raised in body.)
1. Colossians 2:13. And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses.
    - a. (Phillips). You, who were spiritually dead because of your sins and uncircumcision (that is, the fact that you were outside the Law), God has amde to shar ein the very life of Christ!
    - b. Confession. I was made alive with Christ. The Father made us alive together; He co-quickened us. His resurrection life is now in me. God thrilled me with the same new life He made Jesus alive with. I share in the life of Christ. My spirit is full of His life.
  2. Ephesians 2:5. Even when we were dead in sins, (God) hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved).
    - a. (Knox). Our sins made dead men of us, and he, in giving life to Christ, gave life to us too...
    - b. Confession. God gave life to me in giving life to Christ because I was identified with Him. God saw me crucified. God saw me dead. God saw me buried. He saw me made alive. I was made

alive with Christ. That same new life has now been breathed into me, into my spirit. He gave me the very life of Christ Himself, the same new life with which He quickened Him. The same life that made Jesus the master of hell's dark forces is in me.

E. I conquered with Him.

1. Colossians 2:15. And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it.
  - a. (Phillips). And then, having drawn the sting of all the powers ranged against us, he exposed them, shattered, empty and defeated, in his final glorious triumphant act!
  - b. (Weymouth). And the hostile princes and rulers He shook off from Himself, and boldly displayed them as His conquests, when by the Cross He triumphed over them.
  - c. Confession. His victory is my victory, for I was identified with Him. He conquered principalities and powers for me. He triumphed over them for me. His triumph was my triumph. I share in His victory. Satan is a defeated foe as far as I am concerned. Christ's conquest was my conquest. Satan's dominion over me has come to an end.
2. Hebrews 2:14. Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil.
  - a. (Rotherham). He might paralyze him.
  - b. (Moffat). ...he might crush him who wields the power of death...
  - c. (Wuest). ...he might render inoperative the one having the dominion of death...
  - d. (Centenary). ...he might render powerless him...
  - e. Confession. Satan has been rendered powerless towards me by Christ's victory. He has been dethroned, defeated, put to naught, made of no effect, overthrown, neutralized, paralyzed, crushed and put out of commission as far as I am concerned. I conquered with Christ. His victory was my victory because I was made alive and raised with Him.

F. I was raised with Christ.

1. Colossians 3:1. If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.
  - a. Amplified. If then you have been raised with Christ (to a new life, thus sharing His resurrection from the dead), aim at and seek the (rich, eternal treasures) that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.
  - b. Confession. I have been raised with Christ to enjoy the things which are above where Christ is seated at the right hand of the Father. The rich, eternal treasures of that heavenly sphere are mine to grasp and enjoy. All the things of God in Christ are mine. I was raised with Christ. I shared in His glorious resurrection.

2. Ephesians 1:19-21. And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places. Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come.
  - a. The same power that raised Christ from the dead is at work in me. His resurrection power is overwhelmingly great, unlimited, immeasurable, infinite, incredible, resistless, stupendous, tremendously mighty. His resurrection power is at work in me because I was raised with Christ. I share the benefits of His resurrection. I was raised with Christ.

G. I was seated with Christ.

1. Ephesians 2:6. And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.
2. Confession. I was raised with Christ. The same mighty power that raised Him up victorious over all man's old enemies raised me up, too. I was seated with Him, enthroned with Him in the heavenly realm. I share the authority of His throne. I rule with Him over sin, poverty, sickness, demons, and circumstances. All that is under His feet is under my feet because I have been seated with Him. All principalities, powers, and demonic forces are under my feet (Ephesians 1:19-21). Sickness and poverty are under my feet. Satan is under my feet. I have authority to tread on serpents and scorpions and over all the power the enemy possesses.