

WHO LIVES IN YOU?

You might think this is a silly or stupid question -- but just consider it with me for a moment. Exactly who does live in you? You might respond, "Well I do, who else could possibly live in me?"

Let me tell you, there is someone who wants to live in you -- that is the Triune God -- God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. In fact if you are already a Born Again Christian then this is a reality in your life. If not, then you need to give it some immediate serious thought.

Paul the Apostle makes it very clear and plain in his statement -- *"I am Crucified with Christ -- nevertheless I live -- yet not I, but CHRIST LIVES IN ME -- and the life that I now live in the flesh I live by the Faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me"* (Galatians 2:20).

This verse is one of the most powerful in the Bible to give the Believer the Assurance of Christ's presence in their lives. Think of it -- never to be left alone -- never having to depend on themselves -- never to give up because of present circumstances.

Look at this verse piece by piece, *"I am Crucified with Christ."* Christ Jesus was Crucified on the Cross of Calvary -- He was murdered -- He bled -- He died. He died for our sins -- He died to pay the penalty for our failures. Because of His Sacrificial death for us, we also die to self when we become a Blood Washed Christian, then we can say with Paul that we are Crucified -- dead to this present world -- things are different now.

The next phrase -- *"Nevertheless I live."* Just as Christ rose from the dead, we too are risen with Him in Newness of Life when we are Saved (2 Corinthians 5:17).

How do YOU answer the question in our title? -- "WHO LIVES IN YOU?"

Paul goes on to say -- *"Yet not I, but Christ lives in me."* He died FOR us, and He lives IN us. Remember, because He died on the Cross and rose from the dead in His Resurrected Glory, we die to self and rise in newness of Life by His Power. Therefore it is Christ who is giving Life to our mortal bodies -- an entirely New Life (1 John 5:12) -- now that we Believe and are Saved (Acts 16:31) -- now that we are Born Again (John 3:3,7). This is a reality promised in the Scriptures -- but, perhaps not completely understood by us until we dig deeper into God's Word.

Here is the revelation of the matter -- *"And the Life that I now live in the flesh, I live by the Faith of the Son of God."* This New Life that we have received by the Resurrection of Christ is lived by Christ's Faith in us. Many modern translations of the Bible turn it around to read that it is OUR Faith in Christ -- not so -- it is HIS Faith in us now that we are New Creatures in Him -- *"Old things have passed away, behold all things have become new"* (2 Corinthians 5:17).

And the proof of all of this is found in the final words of the verse -- *“Who Loved me, and gave Himself for me”* -- Jesus proved His Love for us in being willing to die for us -- and that death was the most hideous death possible -- nailed and hanging naked on a cross -- excruciating pain -- total humiliation -- but He did it willingly because of His Great Love for us.

Some time ago I heard the following quote by a great pastor and friend -- Salvation is -- *“By Grace Alone, Through Faith Alone, In Christ Alone, For the Glory of God Alone, As Revealed in the Bible Alone.”* That’s it in a nutshell -- there is NO other way -- Christ did it all. There is nothing we can add to it -- all we can do is to receive His Great Gift, repent of our sins, acknowledge Him as our Savior and Lord, and allow Him to live in and through us.

Remember -- and don’t ever forget -- because He is living in us, we are dead with Him to the things of the world -- Hallelujah!

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