



Day One: #2 You Were Crucified with Christ (1)

It's amazing how many times we read scriptures in the Bible and before we realise we've done it, we're attempting to interpret them according to the understanding of our mind (which is, of course, what we looked at last week – that's letting the mind wear the crown of our lives)! However, God asks us to come to the place where we can choose to simply believe Him, regardless of whether or not we 'have it all worked out' in our minds. In fact, if we actually think we have it all worked out, it's probably not God!

One of the truths that He asks us to accept – as wild and wonderful and incredible as it sounds and whether or not we can rationalise it with our minds - is that WE were crucified WITH Christ!

Galatians 2:20 (KJV) *I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me...*

According to the Word of God, our crucifixion with Christ is a completed fact! We are one with Him and we were therefore crucified with Him! There is no separating Jesus from us or us from Him – NOTHING can separate us from He Who IS Love (Rom 8:38 – 39)! When He went to the cross, spiritually speaking, WE went to the cross!

When Jesus was crucified, He died. Physically and spiritually, He died – He experienced separation from God and the death that was due to the entire human race. On one hand, a dark, dark moment. And on the other hand, a most glorious moment! Because in Jesus dying for us, and therefore our own crucifixion...

He made us dead to the things He also had died to.

The fact of the matter is that if Christ is dead to something, He has now made us dead to it, too. It may still look and sound alive to us, but if it's dead to Christ, it's dead to us! This is truly exciting – let's read on and find out what we died to on the cross, and how this changes our identity.



Soak Time

Make this confession out loud: "I am crucified with Christ." What am I feeling in my heart, with regard to this truth?



Day Two: #2 You Were Crucified with Christ (2)

We died with Christ to many things that no longer have the right to lead us or rear their ugly heads against us. But of course, if we do not know what we have died to, we won't know what we no longer have to accept or be moved by. If satan can get us to believe that these dead things are still alive, he knows he can beat us. Deception is all he has, but he can no longer use it against us when we are wise to his lying schemes. So here's the truth:

We are Dead to our Old Identity

By acknowledging OUR crucifixion with Christ, we begin to see that we are inseparable from Him! Not by anything we have done, but by His grace with which He loves us! There was no way for us NOT to be crucified with Him, because we have ever become part of Jesus heart! He carries us with Him wherever He goes, and we went with Him to the cross! He was on that cross, quite literally, as OUR replacement. He was OUR exchange. He took OUR place – as us! He died – AS US! And of all that Christ accomplished in this, the most incredible and overriding aspect of it all is that He took our place...so that He could give us His! He actually took our very identity... and gave us HIS identity in exchange.

Galatians 2:20 (TPT) My old identity has been crucified with Messiah and no longer lives; for the nails of his cross crucified me with him...

Galatians 5:24 (TPT) Keep in mind that we who belong to Jesus, the Anointed One, have already experienced crucifixion. For everything connected with our self-life was put to death on the cross and crucified with Messiah.

This means that we are now totally dead to our old identity. We don't have to see ourselves as separate from Him – we can choose to see ourselves as one with Him and His righteousness. We never have to walk into (or through) any situation alone, again!

We don't have to look at ourselves the way we used to – we can see ourselves the way He sees us! Our old identity no longer has any power to lead us around anymore. We no longer need to act out of the negative way in which we view ourselves – as flawed and sinful. But we can instead act out of the overflow of seeing ourselves as He does - righteous, holy and loved.



No longer do we need to be defined by our actions, but instead we are defined by the Spirit of God who lives within us and the truth of who He is in us! Praise Jesus, this is now how we are to derive our sense of identity!

He actually tells us to put OFF our old identity and put ON our new identity:

Ephesians 4:22 – 24 (NKJV) ...put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and...put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

You were redeemed from your old man and you are now dead to its identity. Even if you see something which resembles the old man, you can choose to say, “No, I put off the old man. I’m dead to my old identity and alive to my new identity – Christ in me.” Don’t be moved by any ‘evidence’ that tells you who you’re not. You’re in Him!



What does it mean to my life that I am actually dead to my old identity?



Day Three: #2 You Were Crucified with Christ (3)

So we have been crucified to our old identity through Christ dying for us on the cross. But that's not where the significance to our identity ends.

We are Dead to Sin

➤ **Please Read Romans 6:1 – 14.**

If you've read these verses, you should be celebrating! This is incredible news! Looking at some of the profound scriptures individually, we can see that sin is no longer an issue in our lives – unless we allow satan to convince us that it is! We are dead to sin!

Romans 6:6 - 7 (NKJV) ...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. For he who has died has been freed from sin.

There can only be sin where there is law. God knew that in order to do away with sin, He had to do away with law and that is exactly what He did when Jesus was on the cross. He nailed the sin to the cross with Jesus, that the body of sin would be done away with once and for all. We have died (with Christ) and we have therefore been freed from sin once and for all. We are completely dead to sin!

This means that we don't have to sin! Remembering that sin means 'miss the mark', this makes it an even more thrilling concept! Sin is not specified, 'law-breaking' acts. Sin is falling short of the best that God intended. So now that we have been freed from sin, no longer do we have to fall short in any area of life.

Romans 6:2 (NKJV) ...How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?

Good question! It's one thing to know this wonderful piece of truth, but it's only liberty to us when we know how to walk in it! We may well BE free from sin, but how, in our everyday reality, do we walk this out? We find the answer in verse 11:



Romans 6:11 (ESV) So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

In short – you choose to believe that it’s true! You CONSIDER yourself dead to sin... regardless of whether or not sin LOOKS alive. You consider yourself dead to it, alive to God and incapable of sin because you are absolutely dead to it! The most powerful confession you can ever utter when temptation knocks on your door is, “I’m dead to that!” If you consider yourself as dead to it, you won’t be moved by it. But while you still consider the temptation to have power over you, you’ll act on it!

The good news is that satan can’t make you do ANYTHING! You might think that He can because it’s felt like He could do it in the past, but it was a lie then and it’s a lie now! Satan cannot make you do anything! You are dead to sin and therefore dead to every temptation he could ever throw at you. If you will simply consider it so, you’ll never need to walk continually defeated by sin again!

Soak Time

Consider a situation or a temptation that in the past has continually kept you bound to sin. Now close your eyes, relax, breathe deeply and focus on seeing the truth in your heart that you are dead to this sin.

- See yourself nailed to the cross with Jesus (or in His heart, however this looks for you), and see the reality of being dead to what Jesus is dead to.
- Now imagine yourself encountering this situation and instead of yielding to sin, considering yourself to be dead to sin and see yourself walking through this situation in victory.

Ask yourself: How does this affect my heart and my sense of who I am?



Day Four: #2 You Were Crucified with Christ (4)

Judgment is the number one enemy of our identity and self worth. It's a continual invitation by satan to believe what He says about us instead of what God says about us!

When we receive the judgments of others about who we are – and that may even include our own judgments about ourselves – we no longer can consider possibilities contrary to these judgments. Talk about limiting our lives!

Life can often feel like a continual barrage of judgment on all sides, when other people – even, and sometimes especially those we love most and who should know us best – assault our hearts with their opinions about us. And somehow, when we're pursuing and following God passionately, the judgments seem to come faster and thicker – more often than not (sadly) from fellow believers!

For example, insecure people (those whose security is in anything other than Christ) may intentionally use judgment against others who are seeking God passionately, to justify their own spiritual condition. After all, human nature says 'we can only feel right about ourselves if we prove ourselves right, and that means we have to prove those who are different to us wrong' (and conversely the one who is pursuing God may also pass judgment on those who do not appear to be pursuing God as passionately). We've probably all – knowingly or unknowingly – been on one or both sides of this story before, and it never ends well. The sad part is that the church can never be one while we still hold judgments about ourselves and about others (1 Corinthians 1:10). Judgments create division. Even God refuses to judge us after He put all of His judgments onto Jesus on the cross, and then relegated His right of judgment to His Son (Acts 10:42; 1 Peter 4:5). And what did Jesus say? That if we have accepted Him, we're righteous in Him! He was dead to judgment, and so we also died to judgment, on the cross with Him. We are completely free from it!

We are Dead to Judgment

Colossians 2:14 (TPT) *And through the divine authority of his cross, he cancelled out every legal violation we had on our record and the old arrest warrant that stood to indict us. He erased it all – our sins, our stained soul, and our shameful failure to keep his laws – he deleted it all and they cannot be*



retrieved! Everything we once were in Adam has been placed onto his cross and nailed permanently there as a public display of cancellation.

This scripture makes it abundantly clear – the FULL price was paid for our sins on the cross. As far as God is concerned, there is nothing more to accuse us. And this does not apply only to those who have received Jesus, but to everyone in the entire world – even unbelievers!

1 John 2:2 (KJV) And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

Jesus paid for sins past, present and future, for every single person that was in the world or would ever be born in the entire world! There is no judgment from God for us (though of course there is a coming day of judgment, but in reality we've chosen our own judgment on this day, by whether or not we have received Christ). If there is no judgment for us from God, there ought to be no judgment for us from people – especially when God has told us so specifically to never judge one another (Luke 6:37; Matt 7:1; John 8:14 – 15).

Soak Time

How have the judgments of others affected my life?

How have my own judgments affected my life?



Day Five: #2 You Were Crucified with Christ (5)

Let's look at what Paul had to say about this – a man who had certainly experienced more than his fair share of judgment, yet remained dead to it. Not only did He refuse to receive judgment from others, but he also refused to judge others, or judge himself.

1 Corinthians 4:3 - 5 (ESV) *But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. For I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.*

In other words, the judgments of men meant nothing to Paul. He was so in alignment with God's judgment towards him (as righteous in Christ Jesus), that you notice he could even truthfully say 'I am not aware of anything against myself'... even though He'd been a persecutor and possibly a murderer before coming to Christ. Here was a man to whom being crucified on the cross with Christ Jesus was a reality. He was obviously dead to his old identity, He was not moved by sin, and judgment meant absolutely nothing to him!

If we look at the account of the cross, we see that in exactly the same way Jesus took sin and sickness so we didn't have to, He also took judgment. We can see the price He paid clearly in passages such as:

John 19:13 (NLT) *...Pilate brought Jesus out to them again. Then Pilate sat down on the judgment seat on the platform...*

Here, a man sits down on an actual seat of judgment to judge Jesus – the Son of Man. He of course, knew not who Jesus was or what He was called to do (John 8:14), yet Pilate made judgment on Jesus. The innocent one was sentenced to the death of a guilty one.

Mark 15:16 – 18 (NASB) *The soldiers took Him away into the palace (that is, the Praetorium), and they called together the whole Roman cohort. They*



dressed Him up in purple, and after twisting a crown of thorns, they put it on Him; and they began to acclaim Him, "Hail, King of the Jews!"...

See this scene in your heart...the mockery of it as the mightiest King ever to exist in the entire universe is ridiculed and scorned, His identity the object of jest and contempt. His identity as our King was judged to be a lie, yet it was the truth. Doesn't that also tell us that who God calls us is truth, even if those around us cannot see it and make cruel judgments completely to the contrary?

And this is only a couple of moments out of the events leading up to and including Christ's crucifixion. Repeatedly Christ received judgment for us and when He died on the cross He died to it once and for all, so that we could also die to it. Judgment should never, ever move us! How is that possible? We simply do what Jesus did when He was taking the judgment for us.

Acts 8:32 (NKJV) ...He opened not His mouth.

Jesus understood the spiritual significance of receiving judgments and He therefore refused all judgments that were issued against Him by not defending Himself. He knew this:

If we defend ourselves we make our accuser our judge.

Just think about it – that means we are making someone other than our righteous and merciful God, our judge! This is indeed, a serious issue.

We must also learn to 'open not our mouths' - to refuse to respond to the judgments issued against us. Although we now know that spiritually speaking, we were made dead to judgment when we were crucified with Christ Jesus, how do we know when experientially we've chosen to believe this and we are truly dead to judgment? The answer is simply: When judgment cannot move us - when we are no longer drawn into defending ourselves.

Every judgment is designed as a lure and a trap to get us to appoint someone else to be our judge. But the Bible tells us that God alone is our judge and also that He is our vindicator and defender. In fact, He tells us to simply love those who judge us and allow Him to take care of the rest (Prov 25:22; Rom 12:20 – 21). Do we trust Him to do this? Do we trust Him to be our righteous judge and defender? Will we be moved more by His opinion of us than the opinions of



others? God says 'stay still and don't open your mouth', but our flesh says 'Defend! Defend!'

There is an excellent line in the movie, *Princess Protection Program*, which reaffirms this truth. A princess who has been forced to live in hiding as a typical American teenage girl, is bullied by girls who are jealous of her. They set her up with a job at a yoghurt parlour where she is told nothing about how to do it, is confused by the machinery and the jealous girls also cause a few 'malfunctions' to happen on purpose. They message their friends to come and watch the disaster unfold. The poor princess is flustered, there is mess and yoghurt on the floor everywhere, and she ends up slipping and falling into the mess, to the laughter of the crowd of onlookers who have by now gathered. The princess' friend comes in to get her and says that the others are laughing because they are making a fool out of her. What is especially powerful is the line that the princess makes at this point. She says:

"I am not a fool and they cannot make something of me that I am not." She holds her head high and she walks out past the crowd, covered in yoghurt, but knowing she is royalty. The jeering onlookers are quickly silenced and shamed.

My sisters, if we would but believe what Jesus has said about who we are, we would never defend ourselves again, because...

Others cannot make us be, by their judgments, what in Christ we are not.



I will consider a judgment that has been made against me and then declare the truth: *"I am not a _____ and they cannot make something of me that I am not."* I will hold my head high and refuse to consider anything other than my declaration: *"I am dead to judgment."* How does this make me feel?
