

Day One: #3 You Were Resurrected With Christ (2)

Last week, we started looking at what the Bible says about our crucifixion and resurrection with Christ. I believe the Lord really wants us to walk deeply in the reality of this resurrection, for the power of it extends far beyond simply the 'ticket to heaven' we've been told it's all about. Our resurrection with Christ Jesus gives us the power to live through His life, right now, here on this earth!

Holy Spirit awakened me to the importance of living as not only crucified but resurrected ones, through a song and a prophetic word.

I had written a letter inspired by Holy Spirit to Jesus' beautiful bride – the daughters of the Most High King. As I was flowing with the Holy Spirit and the words of the letter came out, it said of the Lord, I saw your face when I was on the cross. And certainly He did. It was for the joy that was set before Him that Jesus endured the cross (Heb 12:2). WE were that joy!

However, about a year later, I was listening to Steffany Gretzinger's song, Out of Hiding, and one sentence just jumped out of that song and hit me between the eyes. It said, "You were the one that I was thinking of when I rose from the grave."

Wow! This was just as important to Jesus, and possibly even more so! Yes, we were the joy that caused Jesus to endure the cross, but I believe what He was joyful about was not simply saving us from our sin and the grave, it was also the joy of releasing us into the fullness of His life and watching us live like Him on this earth as well as throughout eternity. His joy was in our victory! His joy was in us living His life! He rose, His heart filled with excitement at the possibilities of the potential that was about to be released inside of us and how it would impact the world! He knew what the plan was, and our joint resurrection was as much a part of it as our joint crucifixion with Him was.

As a body, we are starting to receive and believe this. And as we do, we will arise as the mighty army that Jesus could see when He felt that joy.

As for the prophetic word that I encountered, it affirmed what Holy Spirit had been awakening in me. In a beautiful and profound word over Australia given by Maria Mason, she states that:

"The army of the crucified and resurrected ones is on the rise."

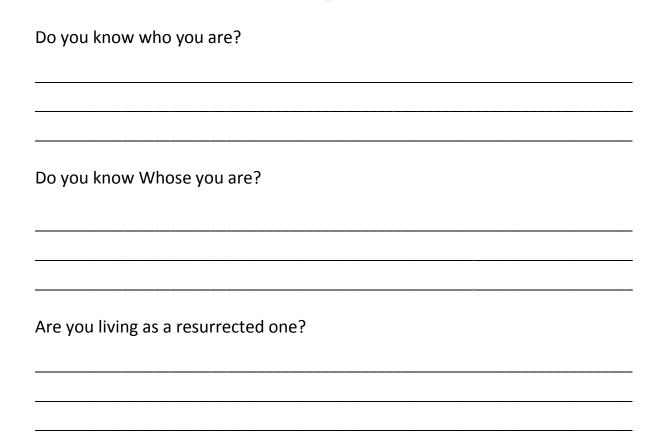


(see http://partnersinprayer.org.au/prophetic-word-for-australia26-jan-2014).

Notice the wording – the crucified AND resurrected ones! This is Jesus' true army. This army is not an army of only crucified believers, for the crucified ones know that without His life, they can do nothing! They may be dead to sin, judgment and the natural realm, but they are not alive to all that He is alive to! It is only when we consider that we are alive to His victory, His Kingdom, and His strength that we can walk in it. In essence, it is coming alive to His life in us.

Soak Time

This is the army which will take this nation for Jesus – the crucified AND resurrected ones, who know who they are, and Whose they are!





Day Two: #3 You Were Resurrected with Christ (3)

<u>His Victory:</u> The Resurrected Ones are Victorious

The cross and the resurrection are the great exchange – His life for ours; our lives for His. He took our place but He also put us in HIS place! That means that through His victory, WE are now victorious and can live as the victorious ones every single day!

His victory over satan is your victory over satan.

We have to realise that satan is a completely defeated foe! He has been stripped of all of his power and has been both paraded and humiliated by Jesus.

Colossians 2:15 (TPT) Then Jesus made a public spectacle of <u>all</u> the powers and principalities of darkness, <u>stripping away from them every weapon and all their spiritual authority and power to accuse us</u>. And by the power of the cross, <u>Jesus led them around as prisoners</u> in a procession of triumph. He was not their prisoner; they were his!

Just imagine the scene. This is very much like what conquering armies used to do in this day. When they had defeated their enemies and captured their King, they would strip him and parade him down the streets of their cities, in order to let the people know that they no longer had to be afraid and that their enemies were defeated! Often, they would also cut off the King's big toes and thumbs, which meant that he could never again wield a weapon or run in a battle against them. He was completely stripped of all authority, dignity, power and ability.

So when it says that Jesus made a public spectacle not only of satan but also of ALL the powers and principalities of darkness, and He led them around as His prisoners just to show that they had been defeated, it was so that we would no longer be afraid.

You are one with Him in this victory!

Just think about it... if we were crucified with Christ and we were resurrected with Him and we can never be separated from Him, in fact He also gave us the



privilege to be in Him as He led these captives around in a parade of humiliation for them and conquering victory for us. They were – and are – our prisoners today! They have already been led around as prisoners by us and they know that they are defeated.

They are still stripped of every weapon and all spiritual authority and they no longer have any power to accuse us. However, if we do not know that they no longer have any power to accuse us, we will be captured by their accusations. After all, this is the only thing satan has left. He is a deceiver, a liar and the father of lies. When he speaks lies to us and we agree with those lies, he can actually use our own power and authority against us. But if we refuse to come into agreement with his whispers of lies, He has absolutely no power over us!

The only weapon that satan has is deception.

The resurrected ones are not moved by satan's lies – about God or about them or their circumstances! They live fully in His resurrection life, knowing that God is greater within them than anything the world can throw at them.

1 John 4:4 (NKJV) You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

You are not trying to overcome – you have already overcome every principality and power of darkness, through the life of Christ that flows throw you. Now live like a resurrected one!



Re-read Colossians 2:15 and then close your eyes. Ask Holy Spirit to show you what this scene was really like. See yourself there, one with Jesus as He (and you) leads satan and the defeated principalities and powers of darkness around as His prisoner. How do you now feel about the truth of 1 John 4:4?



Day Three: #3 You Were Resurrected with Christ (4)

His Kingdom: The Resurrected Ones Live in the Kingdom of God

So the truth is simply that satan can't touch you any more unless you agree with him. You're not even in his domain anymore! Yet another aspect of your resurrection with Christ Jesus is that spiritually speaking, you left the kingdom of this world, and entered the Kingdom of God.

Colossians 1:13 (TPT) He has rescued us completely from the tyrannical rule of darkness and has translated us into the kingdom realm of his beloved Son.

Satan has no access whatsoever to the Kingdom of God and He cannot touch you there unless you open the door to him.

The Kingdom of God is God's way of doing and being. It is His systems and His ways, and His laws, which transcend anything in the world's kingdom. The Kingdom of God is infinitely more powerful than the Kingdom of this world and we have the privilege of living there, if we will consider it so.

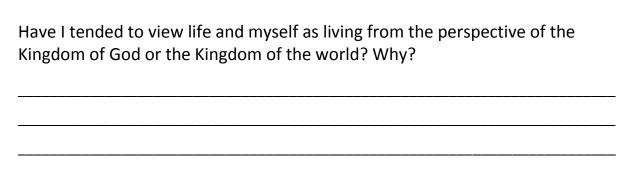
We must believe that when we were crucified, we were taken out of the world's dominion. This is the dominion of law, external measurement, the sin and flesh. Then when we were resurrected, we were placed into the Kingdom of God. This is the dominion of love, peace and joy - the internal fruitfulness, which is the heart. In God's kingdom, everything proceeds from the heart and it is from the heart that we actually change the reality that is around us and enforce Christ's victory on this earth.

There was absolutely no mention of the Kingdom of God until the New Covenant. It is never mentioned on this earth during the Old Testament, quite simply because it did not exist on this earth.

Because man could only think from the perspective of external actions, force, control and measurement, it is no surprise that those who were expecting Jesus also expected Him to bring a physical Kingdom, lead a mighty army and actually restore the land and nation of Israel. And because He didn't come according to their definition of the Kingdom, they totally missed who He was and what He had come for!



Jesus actually brought the Kingdom of God, which is the Kingdom of the heart. It is only mentioned in the New Testament because it was only once Jesus had paved the way for Holy Spirit to live in the hearts of mankind, that our hearts could be renewed and we would be able to live in the reality of this internal – yet triumphant – kingdom.



Soak Time



Day Four: #3 You Were Resurrected with Christ (5)

So we know that the Kingdom of God is a completely different Kingdom to the Kingdom of this world. The world's Kingdom is entirely external – what we can see with our physical eyes or hear with our physical ears. But the Kingdom of God is entirely internal – what we can see and hear with our spiritual eyes and ears. Still, for many people it's a totally new concept and a new way of thinking. The Bible tells us a little more about the Kingdom of God, which will aid our understanding. But as usual, don't try to grasp this with your intellect. Allow the grace of this revelation to bypass your mind and ignite truth in your heart and you will become awakened to it.

Luke 17:20 – 21 (NKJV) Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there! For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you.

If you're looking for an answer to "where" the Kingdom of God is, it's found within each and every one of us, in our hearts. When Holy Spirit comes to live in our hearts, He brings the fullness of Jesus and the Kingdom of God. However, most of the time when we hear the word 'Kingdom', we have a definition that has been influenced by the world's definition of this word, and it mostly conveys conquest, force, might and power – external strength. Well the Kingdom of God certainly is powerful, yet in the Kingdom, power is measured by truth, and God knows where true power comes from.

Romans 14:17 (NKJV) ... for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

In other words, it's not an external kingdom. We don't see it with our physical eyes and ears. But when we are walking in righteousness (understanding of our identity), peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, we can know that we are walking in the invisible Kingdom of God, which makes the will of God manifest in the earthly realm. Everything proceeds from the heart. That is why Proverbs says to diligently protect our hearts because out of them flow the issues (which essentially means 'boundaries') of life. When we walk in the Kingdom of Godin righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit – the fruit of God's spirit effortlessly flows through our lives and changes the world around us. And



satan cannot access this Kingdom in any way. If we will just consider it so and choose to stay there, we will walk out the victory that Jesus has paid for us to have.

Consider what happens when we minister healing to people. Healing is the fruit of the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of God is within us.

Luke 10:9 (NLT) Heal the sick who are there and tell them, <u>'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'</u>

That's why when we walk around in our everyday lives and minister to others within the spheres of influence we have been given, we can say that the kingdom of God has come near them, because we carry around this kingdom inside of us! When we take it into the dark and difficult places, we bring the resurrection life of Jesus with us, and expand the borders of His Kingdom around us.



Close your eyes and consider the Kingdom of God being within you and word within you and word carry the Kingdom and to whom you bring it near to in your everyday the How does this change how you see yourself, your life and your work?	



Day Five: #3 You Were Resurrected with Christ (6)

His Strength: The Resurrected Ones Live From His Strength

One of the many wonders that come to our lives through being resurrected with Him, is that we get to live in and from His strength. After all...

Galatians 2:20 (NKJV) ... it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me.

God knows that we cannot in our own human strength, live a holy life and do all that He has called us to do. So He empowers us through grace with His strength to live from the realm where we can do all things through Christ Who strengthens us (Phil 4:13).

1 Corinthians 15:10 (NIV) But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them--yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.

What a way to live! When we're not actually doing the work, but we're yielding to the life of Christ within us, and His grace actually works through us to accomplish all that He has asked us to do. We never have to operate in our own human strength... we get to live through His supernatural strength.

Ephesians 5:10 (TPT) Now finally, my beloved ones, <u>be supernaturally infused</u> with strength through your life-union with the Lord Jesus. Stand victorious with the force of his explosive power flower in and through you.

This is the very strength that chose to die for us despite everything in the flesh screaming "No!" This is the strength that endured on the cross, though Jesus knew that at any moment He could snap His fingers and be removed from this torture. This is the strength that actually found and could focus on joy in the midst of the cross! This is the strength that bears all things, loves all things and believes all things. The strength that never, ever gives up!

It's this very strength that we have the privilege as resurrected ones, to live from and through. His strength coursing through our body, through our words and our lives, to make us able to overcome every challenge that we encounter. There is only one pre-requisite: That we live abiding in Him and His resurrection. We must consider it so, and walk as though it is true. All our fleshly attempts are left behind as we share the union of one life with Him.



2 Timothy 2:1 (TPT) ...live your life empowered by God's free-flowing grace, which is your true strength, found in the anointing of Jesus and your union with <u>him!</u>

Colossians 2:7 (TPT) Your spiritual roots go <u>deeply into his life</u> as you are continually infused with strength, encouraged in every way. For you are established in the faith you have absorbed and enriched <u>by your devotion to him!</u>

When you live as a resurrected one, you never have to be weary again. His strength is now your strength and you can go beyond what you previously thought were your limitations. Of course that doesn't mean God doesn't value rest, because He does. It also doesn't mean you just run faster and faster because you're in Him. It simply means He has given you the grace to go beyond and nothing that He can accomplish in His strength is out of your reach. In His strength, all things are possible, and believing it is the way you receive it. You are resurrected with Him!



As I consider what God's strength through Christ has accomplished, and I

ealise His strength is in me as part of the resurrection life I'm privileged to njoy, how does that make me feel about the things that I am facing or that m called to do in my life?	I