

# *Crucified With Christ*

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*I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me (Gal. 2:20)*

In Isaiah 59:1, 2 we learn that our sins and iniquities separate us from Jehovah. Paul made the same exact point in Ephesians 2:1 when he wrote concerning those “who were dead in trespasses and sins.” Again to young Timothy, Paul wrote, “But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth” (1 Tim. 5:6). What a terrible state to find ones self in. Living in sin and separated from Jehovah and dead spiritually while living on this earth physically.

Yet in the above passage Paul speaks of another type of death. In Galatians 2:20 Paul speaks of being “crucified with Christ.” In Romans 6:4 Paul made the same observation concerning those who have been baptized into Christ. He wrote, “Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death.” Later in the same chapter Paul continued this thought. “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.” (Rom. 6:10,11).

Those who are dead in sin must decide to die to themselves and to sin that they may live unto God. To accomplish this, there are certain things that must die in our lives. In Colossians 3:5 it says, “Mortify (put to death, DWW) therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry.” When we realize that the literal definition of “death” is “separation” we see the same point being made in passages such as Ephesians 4:22. “That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts.” The point is very clear. If we want to live and abound in our Lord, we must remove certain things from our life. They must be put to death. Jesus put it this way. “If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross (an instrument of death, D.W.W.) daily, and follow me” (Luke 9:23).

What a privilege it is to be able to separate ourselves from Satan, Self and Sin and serve our Lord in the beauty of Holiness. May we all determine that we will follow our Lord more closely as we study our Bibles more and more.