

## *Christ, Our Identity*

Romans 6:1-11

### *What If It Does Not Work?*

**A life lived apart from Him is empty.** The author of Ecclesiastes experienced all that life had to offer and came to this conclusion, “**behold all was vanity and striving after wind and there was no profit under the sun** (Ecc. 2:8-11).”

**The key to resting in the perceived difficulty is seeing that I am who He is before the Father.**

**I.** I must understand that what I was I no longer am, but still have?

**II.** I must understand that what I was is crucified with Christ (Rom. 6:1-11).

In His crucifixion, I died; and in His burial, I was buried. This is no less real than what I was in Adam. I was dead in Adam to God, but I am now dead to sin in Christ.

**III.** I must understand that I have been raised with Christ (Col. 2:20-3:1).

I am saved, therefore I am raised. This has no bearing on whether or not I feel it. I cannot undo by my unbelief what has been done. Your failure to appropriate or understand cannot make false what is true.

**IV.** I must understand that I am now seated with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus (Eph. 2:5, 6).

**V.** I must understand that my life is now hidden with Christ in God (Col. 3:3).

*Continued on the other side...*

**VI.** I must understand that Christ is my life (Col. 3:4; Gal. 2:20).

Listen carefully to what Chuck Swindoll calls “heresy.”

“What seems so right is, in fact, heresy – the one I consider the most dangerous heresy on earth. What is it? *The emphasis on what we do for God, instead of what God does for us*” (Swindoll, The Grace Awakening, c1990, 19).

He continues on page 23 with the following,

“Why not emphasize how much I do for God instead of what He does for me? Because that is heresy, plain and simple. How? By exalting my own effort and striving for my own accomplishments, I insult His grace and steal the credit that belongs to Him alone.”

**VII.** I must understand that God the Father now sees me in the real righteousness of Jesus Christ (1 John 4:17; 1 Cor. 1:30).

**VIII.** Who I am is who He is before the Father.

*"Our identity does not consist in what we do, but who we are in Christ."*