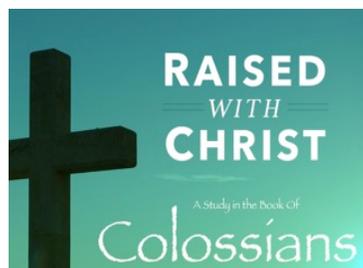


“Raised with Christ!”

Part 4: “ALIVE in Christ!”

Colossians 2:6-15



Introduction: Most people really CAN'T handle the truth of what God says in His Word ... because they are DEAD !!

Where the Spirit of Christ is at work the result will be a life lived by faith in Christ! (Colossians 2:3-5)

The Spirit leads Paul to continue to encourage the believers to stand firm in their faith because others are trying to mislead them.

All who are united to Christ by faith are ALIVE in Christ!

I. Believers have received Christ ...

Colossians 2:6-7: “Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith ...”

To “receive” Christ is an act of the will that has been set free through the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit !

Romans 10:9: “... if you confess with your mouth Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”

Other people “borrow” the truth God reveals in His Word when it is convenient for them, but have no root, no solid footing.

Those who have received Christ by faith cannot and will not fall away because we are “rooted and built up in Him, established in the faith, abounding in thanksgiving!”

II. Believers have been filled in Christ ...

Colossians 2:8-10: “See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition ... and not according to Christ” (vs. 8).

The evidence of the work of His Spirit is receiving Christ Jesus the Lord ... any other kind of “spirituality” is deception.

“Philosophy” = the “love of wisdom.”

I Corinthians 1:18-25: “For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe” (vs. 20).

I Corinthians 2:11-16: “The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God ... But WE have the mind of Christ” (vss. 14,16).

We who by God’s grace and the work of His Spirit have received Christ have been filled with wisdom only those who are in Christ possess.

III. Believers have been raised with Christ ...

Colossians 2:11-12: “... having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised with Him through faith ...” (vs. 12).

Being “raised WITH Christ” points to spiritual life in Christ.

There is only one baptism that accomplishes God’s promise of being raised with Christ every time ... the baptism of the Holy Spirit !!

I Corinthians 12:3,13: “In one Spirit we were all baptized into one body ...” (vs. 13).

Romans 8:9-11; II Corinthians 3:17-18 ... It is the Spirit of Christ who gives life!

IV. Believers are ALIVE in Christ ...

Colossians 2:13-15: “And you who were dead ... God made alive together with Him ...” (vs. 13).

Ephesians 2:4-7: “But God ... even when we were dead, made us alive together with Christ ...” (vss. 4-5).

Jesus “disarmed” Satan by paying our debt on the cross !!

Romans 8:32-33: “Who will bring any charge against God’s elect ?” (vs. 33).