

RESURRECTED WITH CHRIST

The message that the early church preached that changed the known world was the resurrection of Jesus.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,

After celebrating 27 Easters, I understood that the power of God that was released to raise Jesus from the dead gave Jesus victory over sin, Satan, and death. I didn't understand how that same power was designed to give me that same victory.

But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. Romans 8:11

The key to living the promised resurrection life is to have the spirit of God dwell in us.

In order for us to understand this we have to understand God's original design for us.

God created man in his image. He made us triune beings.

And the God of peace Himself sanctify you wholly and may your **spirit, soul, and body** be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 5:23

The Bible says that you are a spirit, that has a soul that lives in a body.

Your spirit is the real you. The body without the spirit is dead.

Your soul is your mind, will, and emotions.

Your body is the physical part that everyone sees.

The Bible says that you are a temple of the Holy Ghost. Think about the temple or tabernacle. It had three parts, the outer court, the inner court and the holy of holies.

Just like in the temple your inner man, your spirit, is where the presence of God dwells.

In Genesis 1:27 God says he made man in His image. God is a Spirit, so Adam was created a spirit being first, then in Genesis 2:7 God breathed the breath or spirit of life into a dirt suit, and he became a living being. Adam was a spirit, who had a soul that lived in a body.

When Adam sinned, he suffered spiritual death, his spirit was separated from the nature of God.

Through sin the image of God was lost in man. What God designed as very good was perverted and this imperfect nature that came through Adam was passed down to all of mankind.

The primary purpose of God sending Jesus was to restore his image in man.

Romans 8:29 NKJV For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

How did Jesus describe his redemptive work? He called it a spiritual rebirth.

Born of water and the spirit.

Let's look at how Jesus' resurrection becomes ours.

Romans 6: 5-7 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, 6 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. 7 For he who has died has been freed from sin.

When you became born again you were united in Christ's death. Everything that came through the nature of sin was placed upon Jesus. This is where the old man died.

You were also united in His resurrection, a new creation remade in the image of God.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Listen to Paul's personal testimony.

Galatians 2:20 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.

Jesus prophesied about a spiritual reunion.

John 14:20 NKJV At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.

Listen to other scriptural confirmations.

1 Corinthians 6:17 NKJV But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

Hebrews 2:11 KJV For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of *one*: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren.

The Greek word for *one* means one to the exclusion of another.

Colossians 2:9-10 AMPC For in Him the whole fullness of Deity (the Godhead) continues to dwell in bodily form [giving complete expression of the divine nature]. 10 And you are in Him, made full and having come to fullness of life [in Christ you too are filled with the Godhead—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—and reach full spiritual stature]. And He is the Head of all rule and authority [of every angelic principality and power].

The moment you were born again you become one with God "in Christ".

Ask yourself what it means to be made full, complete and to reach full spiritual stature.

The moment you were born again that nature of Adam died, and the nature of Jesus was embedded into you, and you became one with God in Christ.

This is why after the ascension of Jesus, every redemptive promise is referred to as a past tense accomplishment.

2 Peter 1:3 Everything we could ever need for life and godliness has already been deposited in us by his divine power.

When Jesus said it is finished he meant that he destroyed the work of the devil and redeemed God's abundant plan for all humanity.

The rest of the Christian life is simply to believe and receive what we already have because of what Jesus did.

Understanding spiritual reality.

Romans 8:17 TPT You are God's beloved child!" And since we are his true children, we qualify to share all his treasures, for indeed, we are heirs of God himself. And since we are joined to Christ, **we also inherit all that he is and all that he has.**

Even though we have these amazing promises there is no physical evidence to support these amazing spiritual realities.

You cannot validate what is true in your spirit through any natural means. You can't see, smell, touch, taste or feel your spirit so how do you believe what you already have?

Spiritual Reality.

John 6:63 NKJV It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.

God's word is revealing spiritual reality or what is already true in your spirit.

When you see all of these verses that say that you are holy, righteous, blameless, healed, delivered, blessed they are revealing spiritual truth.

This requires spiritual mindedness.

Romans 8:6 NKJV For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

To be carnally minded simply means that your belief is established by the validation of your 5 natural senses.

You read or hear God's word and you look for validation based on what you can see, taste, hear, smell or feel.

To be spiritually minded means that belief is established through faith. Faith is the supernatural ability to believe what you can't see based on the integrity of God's word.

You read or hear God's word and you believe it because God says it's true.

How do we become living proof of what is already true in our spirits?

Romans 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may *prove* what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

We have already discovered that the will of God was for us to be conformed into the image of Jesus, this word *prove* means to give tangible evidence of or to become living proof.

Paul is going to teach us how to give evidence of our amazing spiritual reality.

1) Deal with your body: Present your bodies a living sacrifice, he is talking about biblical love, putting the needs of others above yourself.

2) Deal with your soul: Do not be conformed to the patterns of this world. Even though your spirit was complete you still have the same thought patterns that you grew up with. We have to understand that Satan is the God of this world, and he has the greatest opportunity to affect our thinking which shapes our belief.

Your whole life he has had one agenda, to convince us that everything that came through the perverted nature of Adam is normal and to be expected.

The Greek word *transformed* is metamorphoo, this is where we get the English word metamorphosis it means to change from one thing to another.

In order for you to experience this victorious resurrection life, you have to use the word of God to transform your thinking so that you believe and act upon what you already have "in Christ".

Philemon 1:6 that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.