

Colossians - Chapter 3

“Our Hidden Life in Christ”

Colossians 3:3-4

Verse 3

1. Paul declares, “*For ye are **dead**...*” Then he turns right around and says, “*...and your **life**...*”
2. This may seem like a blatant contradiction, but of course, it is not.
 - “*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.*”

Galatians 2:20

3. This is the doctrine of identification. Christ not only died **for us** (substitution), we died **with Him** (identification).
4. When Christ died, it was not **His** death He was dying. “*For the wages of sin is death,*” but Christ had no sin. It was our death.
5. The old man and his sins are dead and buried with Christ, but yet, my spirit pulsates with life, resurrection life – the life of Christ! I’m **alive** in Christ.
6. Christ is ascended to the right hand of the Father. The world cannot **see** Him and His resurrection life, nor can the world see the resurrection life that pulsates in our inner man.
7. This is why Paul says that our life is **hid** with Christ in God.
8. The world didn’t appreciate the life of Christ when He was on the earth and, for the most part, they won’t appreciate it **working** in us either. **John 15:20**

Verse 4

1. Our eternal life isn’t just given to us **by** Christ, it **is** Christ! **1 John 5:11-12**
2. When you trusted Christ, you were brought into a state of complete **oneness** with Christ. Therefore, when you became one with Christ, you received eternal life – because He is life!

3. You cannot get divine, eternal life any other **way** than through Christ. He is our life.
 4. One day the living Christ will **appear**. We will have the opportunity to physically, visibly, see the One who is our life. Because we have been made one with Him, Paul declares, "...then shall ye also appear with him in glory."
 5. When this event happens, we will receive glorified bodies that are of the same nature and substance as Christ.
 - *"For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself."*
- Philippians 3:20-21**
6. Remember, Christ is the Head and we are His body, so it is only natural that when Christ makes His next appearance to end this dispensation of grace, we (His body) will appear with Him in **glory!**