

MEDITATIONS ON THE TRUE CHRISTIAN LIFE

....*"This book of the law [the Word of God] shall not depart from [always be in] your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful [take heed] to do according to all that is written in it; for THEN you will make your way prosperous, and THEN you will have success".... Joshua 1:8 NASB*

May 5th

IN CHRIST

[part 1 of 2]

* The expression, "In Christ," is one of the key expressions in the Epistles. Few have understood all that the Spirit meant when this expression was used by Paul. You see there are two expressions used: "In Christ," and "Christ in us." "In Christ" is our legal standing. It is what He has done for us in Redemption; what He has done for us in the Courthouse of Heaven. When we speak of our being "In Christ," that place began historically on the Cross. Jesus was never a Substitute until He hung there. He identified Himself with us when He took a physical body. We did not become identified with Him until He hung on the Cross and God laid our sin upon Him.

So the expression "In Christ," is the legal side of our Redemption.

We were "in Him" in the mind of Justice when He was nailed to the Cross.

We were "in Him" when sin was laid upon Him. It was our sin.

We were "in Him" when He went down into the place of suffering.

We were "in Him" during those awful hours when He was separated from God and under condemnation, and when the judgment for our sins fell heavily upon Him.

We were "in Him" when He paid the price and God legally justified Him, made Him righteous, and, as the Spirit tells us in 1 Peter 3:18 made Him "alive in spirit."

We were "in Him" when He conquered the dark host of Hell.

We were “in Him” when He put His heel upon the neck of Satan and took from him the keys of Death and Hades.

We were “in Him” when He rose triumphantly over all the host of the Enemy.

We were “in Him” when He ascended from Olivet with His own blood into the Holy of Holies and there poured that blood on the Mercy Seat before the Throne of God.

We were “in Him” when He sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on High.

We were “in Him” until His work was finished.

We were “in Him” until He was seated in the highest place in the Universe.

We are “in Him” today, for Paul tells us in Ephesians 2:6 that “God raised us up with Him and made us to sit with Him in the heavenly places.”

We are “in Him” in this sense.

This is the legal side. This is the courthouse side of the Plan of Redemption. When the Father looks upon us, He invariably looks upon us as “in Christ” legally equal with our Substitute. Whatever He attempts to do in us experientially, is on legal grounds. This legal position in Christ guarantees an experiential fellowship with the Lord that will enable us to enter into any spiritual fellowship this side of Heaven that will glorify the Father. Our position is limitless. All that He is to us legally, He can be experientially.