“Christ Lives In Me”

Intro: False teachers (the Judaizers) had infiltrated the Galatian church heretically teaching a works-righteousness salvation, holding that one was saved through faith in Christ by their adherence to the Old Testament Laws of Moses.

A. Here, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit of God, the Apostle wrote the church declaring that one is the of God (for salvation does not come as a result of any work man can accomplish but it is a free and gracious gift of God); and that God justifies the sinner as the sinner comes to have Christ.

1. In this Paul declared that it is by faith alone that we are joined with Christ unto salvation, and that there is to come into a right relationship with God.

2. Any view of “salvation by the grace of God alone through faith in Christ alone” is a deadly heresy that its adherent to eternal destruction.

I. The Apostle Paul wrote saying, “...”

A. God, of His own gracious will and volition, counts the believer as with Christ. Therefore, as did Paul, we who believe can rightly declare that we have been crucified!

1. Beloved, our being with Christ is not something we are to view subjectively but something we are to view as an objective, as something that happened in the past on account of our presently coming to Christ on the basis of faith, for in so doing we are.

II. Having been crucified with Christ Paul said, “...”

A. Having with Christ so are we with Christ. We are by the Spirit of God!

1. Beloved, that Christ in us is not something we are to view subjectively but something we are to view as an objective, as something that happened in the past on account of our presently coming to Christ on the basis of faith in so doing we are united with Him.

2. Well does John Stott write, “Once we have been to Christ in His death, our old life is finished; ... we have to a new life. In one sense, we live this new life through faith in Christ. In another sense, it is not we who live at all, but who lives. And, living in us, He gives us new desires for holiness, for God, for heaven. It is not that we cannot sin again; we can. But we do not want to. The whole tenor of our has. Everything is different now, because we ourselves are different.”

III. Having declared that Christ lived in him the Apostle Paul then said, “...”

A. The salvific faith Paul exercised when he came to Christ he also exercised as he lived in Christ. If by we have been joined to Christ then by faith shall we live in Christ!
B. Scotsman Henry Scougal of the 1600's called this “the life of _________ the soul of ________.” This is what we today call “living the Christ-life.” As MacArthur puts it, “The true Christian life is not so much a believer’s living for ________ as Christ’s living ________ the believer.” Amen, with Christ in ____ we become partakers of the divine nature (cf. I Peter 1:4).

1. Since we have died with Christ and it is no longer we who _______ but Christ who lives in us, the life we now live here on earth in these mortal bodies must be a life that is lived _______ in the Son of God. We are saved by faith in Christ therefore let us live by faith ___ _________!

IV. The Apostle Paul revealed the ____________ for which he lived by faith in the ____ of God. It was because the Son of God ____________ him and delivered Himself up for him. The sacrificial love of Christ brought Paul to live his life by faith in Him.

A. Here we find the very root of our relationship with Christ – the very ____________ for which we were born of faith and now live by faith in Him: ____ ____________ us personally.

1. He loved you before the foundation of the world. _______ ______ His ________ up____ _____ before you were conceived! While He knew you would sin against Him, yet did He love you and “delivered Himself up” for you.

2. Oh then, how good it is to be __________ with Him by faith, and what a joy it is to _______ this life by faith in the Son of God for ____ _________ us and delivered Himself up to the cross for us.

V. Having a true understanding and right life application of the Gospel of Grace Paul rightly declared, verse 21, “I do not nullify the __________ of God; for if righteousness comes through the Law, then __________ ______ needlessly.”

A. Beloved, _______ and __________ go hand in hand and to deny the one is to destroy the other. It is impossible to be saved by both grace and works or faith and works as the Judaizers taught. One is __________ only by grace through faith ___ __________ Christ.

B. J. Greshem Machen wrote, “The Judaizers attempted to supplement the saving work of Christ ___ __________ of their own obedience to the law. That, says Paul, is impossible; Christ will do everything or nothing: ________ your salvation if your obedience to the law is perfect, or else trust wholly to Christ’s completed work; you cannot do both; you ____________ combine merit and grace; if justification even in the slightest measure is through human merit, then Christ died ___ ________.”

Conclusion: So then dear family, _______ let us consider ourselves as united with Christ in His death and life, and as a result of coming to Him by faith let us now continue in faith, living this present life by faith ___ the _______ of God who loved us and delivered Himself up for us. And in so doing we do _________ and testify of the glorious __________ of God, and the necessity of the loving sacrifice of Christ upon the cross.

Do not nullify the grace of God by acting as if your righteousness comes through works of the Law thereby asserting that Christ died needlessly, but rather affirm the grace of God as displayed in the death of His Son by coming to Him and living in Him by faith for truly, it is no longer we who live, but __________ who lives ____ ___.

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