

Take Christ Personally



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. Galatians 2:20

To say that Galatians 2:20 is one of my favorite scriptures is truly an understatement. This scripture has had a profound impact on my spiritual wellbeing like no other. I say this because, for me, it compelled me to take the message of this scripture personally. Don't get me wrong all of the scripture is to be taken personally by each and every one of us. However, I think that you would agree with me when I say that there are some scriptures that just have a way of giving us not only a collective Christ consciousness, but a more personal Christ consciousness as well. For example the 23rd number of Psalm *"The lord is **my** Shepard and I shall not want."* Then there is the 73rd number of Psalm *"My feet were almost gone and **my** had steps had well Nye slipped"* or Philippians 3:13 & 14

*Brethren, I count not **myself** to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting*

*those things which are behind, and reaching
forth unto those things which are before,*

*14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the
high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*

Each of these examples, like so many more that I have not cited, were intended for us to internalize and take personal.

We are taught as followers of Christ to have a personal relationship with the Lord. Again, Paul teaches in Philippians 3:10: “That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;” In order for us to get to know Christ, **We must Take Christ Personally!**

In our scripture for today Paul teaches us how to Take Christ Personally. He says “I am crucified with Christ”. I bear with in my soul the spirit of Christ’s crucifixion so much so that it has taken

up residence in me. “Nevertheless I live” That being said I am still alive. “And yet not I but Christ liveth in me.” Even though I am alive, it is no longer my life to live for it now belongs to Him! “And this life that I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God”...: When you take Christ Personally you take on his persona. You become the very essence of who Christ is. Becoming the essence of Christ gives definition to why you are a Christian. .. “who loved me and gave Himself for me.” For me that definition is very simple. It is twofold. First, He Loved me. In John 15:12 Jesus says “love ye one another as I have loved you”. He set the example and bids us to follow. And second He gave Himself for me. He died for me. He sacrificed His like for my sake. John 15:13 Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friend. Quite frankly I don’t need any more justification than that. I take what the

word says personally. What Christ did on the Cross, He did for me! I take that personally!

And finally, John shares the ultimate personalization of Christ in 1John3:2 “Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.” I’m reminded of the little country boy named Henry who had a problem with subject verb disagreement. He would get the use of is, am and are confused. He would say things like I is going to school or I is right about this. His teacher finally called him to the side to try to get him understand the difference. So she pointed to Henry’s brother and sister and said Now Henry here is the correct usage of the word Is verses are. She said John Is. He nodded in understanding and then said Henry Mary is, again he nodded he understood, and then she

said but Henry you are. There was an obvious expression of confusion on his face so the teacher said what's wrong? Henry repeated what the teacher had said. Teacher John Is and the teacher said that's right, And then he said Mary is. Again the teacher said with a great sigh of relief yes that right! Henry got thinking about what his parents had taught him about how they should share and share alike and how they always had everything in common. So he finally said to the teacher I'm sorry teacher but if John is and Mary is then I is too because we are always one and the same. Well, my brothers and sisters when we take Christ personally, Whatever He is, we is, for we are his.

I don't know about you, but "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

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