

A THREE FOLD CORD

Colossians 3:1-4

Identification with Christ is an important N.T. concept. (1) When Christ died, I died; (2) When He was buried, I was buried; (3) When He arose, I arose.

I was once “dead in sin”, but now, because of my identification with Christ I am “dead to sin”. This truth of identification is found in shadow and type in The O.T. as well as in direct statements in the New.

In fact, it is Paul’s major thesis in Romans 6 - and is the continuing theme here. This is what theologians call ‘positional truth’, as it deals with the position we have in Christ. It is also translated into ‘practical truth’ when we grasp its significance and act upon it.

1. OUR SHARE IN CHRIST’S RESURRECTION - VERSE 1a

The resurrection of Christ is -

- A. A fact of sacred and secular history -
- B. A solid fact of theology -
- C. A fact of ‘spiritual experience’ for the saved -

2. OUR SHARE IN CHRIST’S RAPTURE - VERSES 1b -3

From where He is now, He ministers to our need - Heb. 10:12

- A. His position of strength - Heb. 4: 14,15 Heb.7:25;
(where Christ sitteth - Col. 1)
- B. His position of satisfaction - verse 2; Heb. 10:19-25
(set your affection - Col.3:2) Phil.4:13,19-25
- C. His position of security - verse 3 - “hid with Christ in God”
John 10:27-30; 1 Peter 1:5; Gal. 2:20

2. OUR SHARE IN CHRIST’S RETURN - VERSE 4

We are to share in -

- A. The life of Christ now - John 1:4; 1 John 5:12
H is our life - 1 John 3:1,2
- B. The Lordship of Christ - 1 John 3:1,2; (shall appear with Him)
- C. The Reign of Christ - 1 Corinthians 15:49; 2 Tim. 2:12

As “children of God...” - 1 John 3 ; As citizens of Heaven - Philippians 3:20 ; as a royal priest hood, - we are most blessed.

