

03 – Going Deeper – Union

... how is it ever possible for US to have anything to do with HIM.

... what sort of relationship would it be?

Our relationship with God

Romans 6:23, “The wages of sin is death... but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord”

“if you are already followers of Jesus, what is the nature of our relationships with him?”

What does that mean?

3 wrong ways

1) God then me

God saves me then hands things over to me for me to try to live a transformed life 100% by myself.

2) God not me

... “let go and let God”.

3) God plus me

...we are partners in our union where each party contributes something but we still need independent efforts from each other.

4) God in me

...God does everything to save me THEN through the work of the Holy Spirit in me, he unites me spiritually to his Son.

God does it all and we do it all.

Biblical evidence for “God in me”

1 Cor 15:10, “But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them – yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.”

Phil 2:12-13, “Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed – not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence – continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfil his good purpose.”

Col 1:29, “To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me”

“Divine grace that brings about change in my life is divine grace that fuels and fills our own efforts.”

United with Christ?**1) The big picture level**

... being united to Christ means that he is our leader (

2 Cor 5:14, “For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.”.

1 Cor 15:22, “For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.”

2 Cor 5:17...a new creation.

Ephesians 2:6, “And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus”.

Col 2:12, “having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.”

Col 3:1, Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.”

2) The personal level

1 Cor 6:13-18.

A deeper relationship

... in him we have everything we need to grow in Christ.

Col 1:16-17, “For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.”

Heb 1:3, “The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.”

This is who Jesus is... AND we are in Christ.