

*Now That You're Born-Again (cont'd)*

LESSON 6 IN THE SALVATION SERIES

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On last Sunday, we discussed what to do now that you're born-again. Today, we will pick up where we left off:

*I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me:*  
(Gal. 2:20)

- **Ascended**—Now that you're born again, you no longer exist upon the same playing field as you did when you relied upon your carnal mindset. You have now ascended to a higher plane and draw guidance from "heavenly places."

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ...* (Ephesians 1:3)

- **Filled**—You become so filled with the fruits of righteousness that you no longer have room for the things that tempted your appetite the most. Your desire is complete in God.

*Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.* (Phil 1:11)

- **Completed**—You no longer roam about searching for things in the earth to complete who you are. You are complete in God.

*And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:*  
(Colossians 2:10)

- **Glorified**—When we allow the indwelling of Christ to reign within us, He is glorified.

*That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.* (2 Thessalonians 1:12)

As soon as you accept Christ as your personal Lord and Savior, you are born into the family of Christ. Therefore, whatever was done to Christ, was done to you as well. This does not mean that you were physically crucified, buried, and ascended, but that you become an heir to Christ. Therefore, His lineage becomes your lineage.

This also entitles you to the inheritance of the kingdom. As someone who is now an heir of Christ, you must act with royal dignity and according to your stand. When Jesus arose out of the tomb, He did not ascend into heaven wearing His grave clothes. The mistake that many of us make is in trying to live out a godly lifestyle without losing those things that we claim to be dead in our lives. Now that you're an heir of the Promise, you must change your attire. Put on the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness so that the Father may be glorified and so that you can fully enjoy the benefits of the Christian experience and all that the Father has given you as an inheritance and a Believer.

***Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.  
(2 Corinthians 5:17)***

The manifestation of your new life is predicated upon whether or not Christ dwells inside of you. The fruits that you bear either reveal the Christ-like nature or the old nature that you're allowing to continue to reign as a prevalent part of your existence. When you are connected to Jesus, He becomes the most visible part of you, and as a result of being connected to Him, you will bring forth good fruit.

*"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.  
(John 15:1-4)*

Jesus says that because of the word that He has spoken, you are already clean. Because He has cleansed you, all you need to do is abide in Him, allowing His cleansing power to be a testament to others of His miraculous works. When you allow yourself to abide in Jesus, you can not bear any other fruit, except that which He produces. The fruit that you bear is indicative of an internal change that has taken place. It is not to be confused with "works" which are external acts. Therefore, you should spend all of your time "trying" to be a good person who does good works, but instead, earnestly submit to the Holy Spirit and allow Him to have His way in every area and struggle in your life.

*Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.  
(Philippians 4:9)*