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Christ in You.

(Colossians 1:27-29)

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Christ in You. (Col. 1:27-29)

- **Colossians 1:27-29**²⁷ To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.²⁸ Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.²⁹ For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

The word 'in' from Strong's Concordance means in, by, with, among, at, on, through and together with.

Verse twenty-seven could read:

- Christ in you.
- Christ among you.
- Christ by you.
- Christ together with you.

Christ in you can mean the following three things:

1. That Christ was in the midst or among the Gentiles prior to the resurrection making known God's glorious plan of salvation for the Gentiles.
2. Jesus is the truth and the expression of God's love, and is therefore in believers through truth and love.
3. Jesus words, his Gospel, his love and the desire to do his will is in the heart and mind of those who believe in him.

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Jesus said, "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends," (John 15:13). When the eyes of a sinner are opened to their fallen condition before God and they perceive what it cost the Lord Jesus Christ to save them their heart is filled with love toward him, it is in this sense that Christ dwells in the human heart. Jesus dwells in the heart by his Spirit and by love. The following is a true story and a good example of a person being in the heart of another. An eight-year old girl with a severe disability, whose best friend was her mother was doing her first live stage show.

The mother loved her daughter but could not be at the opening show as she was in hospital with terminal cancer. A television reporter asked the young girl if she would be sad and miss her mother at the opening of the show. The small girl with tears in her eyes said, "Yes I will miss her, but she will be in my heart where she belongs." Love for a person creates the reality and presence of that person in the human heart. This presence is in direct proportion to the love i.e., the greater the love the greater the presence.

- Every Christian, by looking at the cross knows that God and Jesus love them.

The following four inward attitudes and outward behaviours evidence Christ's Spirit being in a believer:

1. They have the same mind purposes and goals as Jesus.
2. They are one in mind and purpose with Jesus.
3. They love Jesus and it is evidenced by their lifestyle.
4. They trust in and rely on Christ's for their eternal salvation.

CHRIST AMONGST YOU

Some believe that the verse should actually read, "Christ amongst you" meaning that Christ by his Spirit is amongst the church and those who gather in his name and though this is certainly a true statement since the Lord himself said, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them" (Matt 18:20) it does not mean that the verse is wrong in saying, "Christ in you" since Christ by his Spirit, by love and through faith dwells in the heart and mind of every faithful brother and sister who is devoted to him.

CHRIST IN YOU AND THE NEW RACE

Christ is the head of a new race and those outside this new race enter into it by faith in belonging to Christ. Adam was the head of the old race that believers were in prior to being in Christ's new race therefore the words, "Christ in you" in this context means:

- Fully belonging to Christ.
- Being together and in union with Christ.
- Agreeing with and sharing in the divine nature of Christ.
- Having the same mind as Christ (i.e., desiring to honour his heavenly Father).

CHRIST FORMED IN YOU

Paul earnestly and deeply desired that Christ would be formed in the Galatian brothers and sisters (Gal. 4:19). He saw himself as a father who gave spiritual birth to the Galatians and was anxious that as they grew in faith Christ would be formed in them.

Christ being formed in you carries the following two ideas:

1. That our heart and mind would be full of love, compassion, mercy, kindness and forgiveness etc., not only toward our brothers and sisters in the Lord but also toward those outside the Kingdom of God.
2. God's will, God's eternal plan, God's love, His purposes and promise are engraved in our hearts and our minds and the Lord Jesus Christ is our greatest love and our greatest desire.

This principle of a person being formed in us is not limited to Christ only, since any person we deeply love or deeply worship (true or false) can be formed in us. Every married person who has ever experienced self-sacrificing, compassionate and supporting love will not only have experienced the one they loved being formed in their heart their mind, but also in their emotions. When someone loses a spouse, family member or friend they have been close to for many years and loved deeply the presence of that person will remain as a real entity in their mind and heart. For some it will be to the end of their lives while for others it will dissipate over time (depending on the depth of love and the length of time they have loved) for others though the memory will remain the spiritual presence will pass when new love blossoms. Paul's greatest and heartfelt desire for all faithful brothers and sisters in Christ was that they would know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge (Ephes. 3:19) and that Christ would be formed in them (Gal. 4:19).

For further information see the title:

- Christ in You (Eph. 3:17).
- In Trinity (The Doctrine of the Trinity) (ON WEBSITE MENU).

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