

(Same as #452 - Year B)

Year C #567

Hid with Christ in God

050302-2

Hello! This is Dorothy -

Do you ever find you start telling your friend a story and then somehow you get sidetracked because you really have to explain that other point? Then you think, "I better go back to what I was really talking about in the first place." Well, that is exactly what the Apostle Paul did in the **Book of Colossians**. In **chapter 2**, he was saying something and then he had put in those very, very important interjectory warnings. But back to what Paul was saying: the amazing truth is that in Christ, we are united in His death and burial and resurrection.

Colossians 2:12 is where he left off by saying,

12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

This theme is again continued in **Colossians chapter 3 ---**

1 If ye - since ye - then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

2 Set your affection things above, not on things on the earth.

3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

Voluntarily, the Lord Jesus Christ took my place and bore the judgment for my sin upon the Cross. He bore my condemnation, and it was all by grace, which is God's unmerited favor. No amount of penance or good works or religiosity could possibly pay for what only the Lord Jesus Christ did. If you receive Him now as your Lord and Saviour, you likewise will become partakers of Christ and receive new life in Him. When Christ died on the Cross for the believer, He completely severed us from the bondage of this world. In other words, if you have received Him, you have been cut off like radical surgery from all this world mind set. You are free! Before, you were bound by sin as this world had such a pull on you, but now you have been set free from that. Death and judgment poured on Jesus. And you know what? He exhausted all their power! So we do not have to get all involved with that: He did it for us! Whereas since birth we belonged in Adam's race, through His victory, the victory of Jesus, the believer is translated into the kingdom of His dear Son. Grace and glory are before us! As a believer, when Jesus died, we died with Him. We were buried in His grave - we lay there. Now we live by His resurrection life. For it is His Spirit which has come to teach others, through us, of Him. For as the believer is absolutely free, we can know perfect peace — perfect peace even in

the midst of the storm. Through the Lord Jesus, we are united with Him Who sits at God's right hand not only as the head of the Church, but of the head of each person who has found life through Him.

The Lord Jesus Christ is now my holiness by His indwelling Holy Spirit, who raised Christ from the dead. For every born-again believer, the Lord Jesus has our best interest always in His heart. **For you have died,** it says in **verse 3. And your life is hid with Christ in God.** As the pregnant mother, we are impregnated into Him. The Head of the Church, Jesus is in Heaven and we are in Christ. My life all has to do with the heavenlies. My life all has to do with His eyes from up There, seeing things down here. The believer's life is above all that is going on that is so evil and so wrong. Somehow the believer's life is so wrapped up in Christ that the overwhelming love of God is shed abroad for those that we meet. It is this resurrection life that gives all glory to the Lord, because it is all centered in Him.

Yes, He made peace by the Blood of His Cross. You and I can know what it is to be reconciled to God through His death. Christ is our all in all. Why not let Him hold that position in your heart today? "Oh," you say, "I know Him," and somehow you are busy trying to do something for Him. You struggle with all the things that happen

in your life. You try to fit Him in with everything else, but say, *No longer, Lord. I want You to be All in all* . That means every day for His indwelling life to be All in all. The impact then and the glory all has to do with Christ. This is why He is calling you right now to be available and say, *Yes! That is what I want.*

In Jesus' precious Name.

Amen.