

(Same as # 453 - Year B)

Year C #568

The Heavenly Man

050302-3

Hello! This is Dorothy -

How Christ rose from the dead is a mystery! And how Christ is able to make us into new creatures is likewise a mystery. But that He has done this, we know. As a believer, when we reckon ourselves to be dead in Christ, it is no longer my strength and my efforts, but it is His. **Philippians 4:13** in the Amplified says - **I have strength for all things in Christ Who empowers me [I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him Who infuses inner strength into me; I am self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency.** I love that: ***self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency.*** When we reckon ourselves to be dead in Christ, we realize we are complete in Him in His fullness of life and spiritual stature.

Back in **Colossians 3**, we read in **verse 3** in the Amplified - **For [as far as this world is concerned] you have died, and your [new, real] life is hid with Christ in God.** When we know new life in Jesus Christ, we know His new life as a risen, ascended and reigning Lord. *Dying with Christ* not only means identification with Him in this respect, but dying from all - dying from something: like dying to sin, dying to self, dying to the Lord, dying to the world.

Dying to sin - **Romans 6:2 - God forbid. How shall we, that are**

dead to sin, live any longer therein?

Dying to self - **2 Corinthians 5** —

14 For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:

15 And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them and rose again.

Dying to the law - **Romans 7:6** - **But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter.**

Galatians 2:19 - **I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God.**

Dying to the world - *and its ways and its views here.*

You see, the first Adam made a frantic attempt to seize equality with God. And Jesus, the last Adam, humbled Himself and obediently accepted the role of the suffering Servant. He *humbled Himself*, which means He put aside all personal rights and interest in order to insure the welfare of others. The Lord Jesus did not stop His voluntary humiliation at His incarnation; this was shown in the depths of His death by crucifixion. Likewise, as we have borne the image of the earthly, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man – with a capital M. The image of the heavenly Man. The Christian died with Christ on the Cross by the life we inherited in Adam. It is gone! Therefore, we put ourselves in bondage to the

perishing old age of the Adamic race in this world when we submit to things which perish. Don't fall back to that bondage!

For it is explained in **1 Corinthians 15:**

45 And so it is written, The first Adam became a living soul; the last Adam was made a living Spirit.

46/ Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. *In other words, it is talking about the Adamic race; it is talking about the new race that we can have in Christ, the Second Man; the last Man; the Man with a capital M - the Lord Jesus Christ. The other was bondage; this is life.*

47 The first man is of the earth, earthy: *-that was under Adam - the second man is the Lord from heaven - that is Jesus!*

48 As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy; and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly.

50 Now this I say, brethren, *-that is to the born-again believer -* **that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom the God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.**

Therefore, I am urging you to submit and understand that your life is not meant to be lived in the bondage of the first Adam, Satan, whereby, generation to generation, we are born in sin. We find we are falling into the patterns of our father or grandfather. We understand all the things that seem to bind us and hold us and pull

us down to this earth. But understand that by death, burial, and resurrection in the Lord Jesus Christ, we can be in this new creation. Not only in our mind, but in our literal being, because God gives His Holy Spirit to make this possible.

How do you do this? How do you understand this on a day by day basis? When you submit, as a believer, to His headship, you acknowledge that from now on you are not going to try to live the Christian life. You are going to let the Lord Jesus Christ live the Christian life through you. You don't just say, "Okay, I have this all worked out. Now God bless it, because it seems important." No. You live a life of total dependence upon Jesus. And you know what? At the same time you are doing that, you are bearing the image of the heavenly Man! The world needs to see the image of the heavenly Man.

For His glory's sake. Amen.