

“Dead in Christ”

- I. Review: Our work is to s-bm-t so that God can do His work of subduing.

- II. Introduction
 - A. **Luke 9:23&24** says that to be a follower of Jesus we must deny ourselves, take up His cross, and follow Him.
 - B. How?

- III. Dead with Christ. **Romans 6:1-8**
 - A. When we were baptized, we were baptized into His death. **Romans 6:3**
 - B. We were buried with Him into death. **Romans 6:4**
 - C. Our old man or self is crucified with Him so that we should no more serve sin. **Romans 6:6**
 - D. Once we are dead with Christ, we are freed from sin and are able to live with Him. **Romans 6:7&8**
 - E. Only after this happens are we able to be born again. **John 3:3-7**

“The Christian life is not a modification or improvement of the old, but a transformation of nature. There is a death to self and sin, and a new life altogether. This change can be brought about only by the effectual working of the Holy Spirit.”
The Desire of Ages, page 172

- IV. Crucified with Christ. **Galatians 2:20**
 - A. When we agree to be crucified with Christ, Christ is able to live out His life in us. **Galatians 2:20**

“And if we consent, He will so identify Himself with our thoughts and aims, so blend our minds into conformity to His will, that when obeying Him we shall be but carrying out our own impulses.” *The Desire of Ages, page 668*
 - B. Christ in us is the hope of glory since this gives Christ the opportunity to make us perfect in Him. **Colossians 1:27-29**

- V. Dead in Christ. **1 Thessalonians 4:16**
 - A. Why the emphasis about them rising first?
 - B. Our God is a God of order.
 - C. There needs to be time for the angels to gather those who have been resurrected and assemble them with the righteous who are alive when Jesus comes. **Matthew 24:30&31**
 - D. After all the hugging, crying, and processing, I believe that we will, as families, “be caught up together with them (the dead in Christ) in the clouds”.
 - E. Everyone who ascends to heaven with Jesus will have learned what it means to be “*Dead in Christ*”.