

“Let There Be Light” - The Wonderful Results of Saving Faith Pt.2

**This series was taught at North Christian Church, leading up to a marvelous series on "The Gospel, Salvation, and Sanctification".*

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Review is always GOOD. We all need it.

And we all need to keep the BIG PICTURE in mind at all times...

There is nothing quite as striking as the difference between darkness and light.

When God turns on the light (the sun), early every morning without fail, then everything around us becomes visible.

And all it took was a word from God, then the power of God went into action. **Gen 1**

There is a spiritual analogy to all of this: When a person humbly chooses to receive saving faith in our God and Savior, Jesus Christ, then the Lord turns the light on in his soul. Eph 2:8-10

The new believer then understands things like this:

Eph 2:8-10 *For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*

When someone repents of their sins against God and turns to Christ in their heart, GOD CHANGES THEM.

And from that day on, this person can "see" spiritual things!

Spiritual truths becomes visible/understandable because God has turned the light on in their soul.

And in the lives of believers, so long as they seek Him, **Matt 6:33,7:7-11**, that light becomes brighter and brighter as "the sun continues to rise" in their life.

As a good reminder, let's see what the Lord Jesus said :

Matt 6:33 *"But **seek first** His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*

Matt 7:7-11 *"Ask, and it will be given to you; **seek**, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. 9 "Or what man is there among you who, when his son asks for a loaf, will give him a stone? 10 "Or if he asks for a fish, he will not give him a snake, will he? 11 "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!"*

The more a believer follows Christ and pursues His Word, the more he will see it all as truth, and the Light that is in him will overpower the darkness in his soul, more and more.

This is the sanctification of the believer in time.

John 8:31-32 *So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."*

Eph 5:6-14 *Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. 7 Therefore do not be partakers with them; 8 for you were formerly darkness, but **now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light** 9 (for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth), 10 trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. 11 Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them; 12 for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret. 13 But **all things become visible when they are exposed by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light.** 14 For this reason it says,*

"Awake, sleeper,

And arise from the dead,

And Christ will shine on you."

This takes humility and obedience, motivated by love for the Lord who saved you!

But at the same time, this salvation and sanctification is totally from God.

Without our gracious God turning the light on FOR us, we would remain in darkness!

By God's grace, at the moment of saving faith, He says "let there be light", and it is so in our souls,...

... and we right then also possess the wonderful results of His saving grace.

And we begin to shine the wonders of salvation, not only in our own souls, but for the whole world to see.

And this is all the work of God which He does in us and for us.

In Part 1, we started looking at the INVISIBLE results of saving faith. These are the results of God saving the believer, by grace.

And we will focus on the Church Age believer; what is done for the believer AFTER the cross and the resurrection of The Lord Jesus Christ.

The Invisible Results of Saving Faith: The believer in Christ has been made into a new creature/new man. Eph 2:15,4:24, 2Co 5:17, Gal 6:15, Col 3:10, Joh 3:3

God doesn't improve the darkness in man's soul; instead He pierces the darkness by giving man the light, by giving man a piece of Himself, making him brand new!

Let's review a couple scriptures before we move on...

2 Cor 5:17 *"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a **new creature**; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come."*

Gal 6:15 *"For neither is circumcision anything, nor uncircumcision, but a **new creation**."*

By faith in Christ, the believer is made into a new man. In fact, he is made into "the light of the world", according to Jesus. Joh 8:12, Mat 5:14-16

As a new man, believers are an extension of Jesus Christ. They are now the lights of the world, and by analogy, He has made believers like the lights in the expanse of the heavens that shine light on the earth. (**Gen 1**)

John 3:3 *"Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot **see** the kingdom of God."*

Only a person who has trusted in Christ will be born again and able to "see" the kingdom of God.

We're talking about understanding the supernatural ways of God.

For the believer, the old self has not been "fixed up", he has been **replaced by the "new man"**, thank God!

You have been given His light in your soul, and that new, perfect light overcomes the darkness. It is the very light of Christ.

We also saw another wonderful result of saving faith is that the believer now has **peace with God, forever**.

The Invisible Results of Saving Faith: The believer in Christ has been Reconciled. 2Cor 5:18-19, Rom 5:1,10-11, Eph 2:15c-18, Col 1:20, 1Jo 4:10.

2 Cor 5:17-19 *"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. 18 Now all*

*these things are from God, who **reconciled** us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of **reconciliation**, 19 namely, that God was in Christ **reconciling** the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of **reconciliation**."*

Focusing on reconciliation as one of the invisible results of saving faith; this means **God has granted us PEACE** into an eternal relationship with Him as believers in Christ!

That's the Good News of the Gospel!

Even though we were His enemies (**Romans 5**), God has graciously offered us a peace treaty!

He has offered us **complete forgiveness** through His Son, AND He **justifies** those who trust in Him!

Rom 5:1 *"Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have **peace** with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,"*

Rom 5:10-11 *"For if while we were enemies we were **reconciled** to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been **reconciled**, we shall be saved by His life. 11 And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the **reconciliation**."*

Notice; "reconciled" here is spoken of **in the past tense**.

It's already done. Peace with God has already been given to those who trust in Christ.

Through the Cross, our gracious God preached peace to us!

It truly is beyond words that the perfect God of heaven did **whatever was necessary** so that we could have peace with Him for all eternity, despite our sins against Him.

Col 1:19-20 *"For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, 20 and through Him to **reconcile** all things to Himself, having made **peace through the blood** of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven."*

Because God is fully satisfied by His Son's sacrifice on the Cross, we now have peace with God forever as believers.

1 John 4:10 *"In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins."*

By grace, the believer in Christ **now** has peace with God!

The Invisible Results of Saving Faith: The believer in Christ has been Justified. Acts 13:38-39, Rom 3:21-4:8,5:1, Gal 2:11-21, 3:23-26, Tit 3:4-8

Acts 13:38-39 *"Therefore, my brothers, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. 39 Through him everyone who believes is **justified** from everything you could not be justified from by the law of Moses."*

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To be "justified" is a judicial decision by the Supreme Court of Heaven.

And God the Father has not only **declared us innocent** through faith in Christ, but He has also **given us the very righteousness of Jesus Christ** as a gift!

Let's read Rom 3:21-4:8, and please remember, there are no chapters breaks in the original manuscripts of the Bible.

Rom 3:21-4:8 *"But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even **the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe**; for there is no distinction; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being **justified** as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;*

*25 whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; 26 for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, **so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.***

*27 Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith. 28 For we maintain that a man is **justified by faith** apart from works of the Law. 29 Or is God the God of Jews only? Is He not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, 30 since indeed God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith is one. 31 Do we then nullify the Law through faith? May it never be! On the contrary, we establish the Law.*

4:1 *What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, has found? 2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he has*

*something to boast about, but not before God. 3 For what does the Scripture say? "ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS." 4 Now to the one who works, his wage is not credited as a favor, but as what is due. 5 **But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness,** 6 just as David also speaks of the blessing on the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works:*

7 "BLESSED ARE THOSE WHOSE LAWLESS DEEDS HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN, AND WHOSE SINS HAVE BEEN COVERED. 8 "BLESSED IS THE MAN WHOSE SIN THE LORD WILL NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT."

The basic message is that God does NOT justify man based on his own works, but He justifies the ungodly through faith in Christ alone. AND He even credits this believer with Christ's perfect righteousness! 2Co 5:21

Clearly, Justification, as a part of Salvation, is all by God's grace.

The person who turns away from trying to save himself can be justified by faith in Christ, if he repents from relying upon himself!

Again, God's grace is truly beyond words!

Why does the Lord act as our Best Friend and treat us with such kindness and gentleness?!!

That's the POWER of His love! His love is supernatural, perfect, full, and unfailing. (as in **1Co 13**)

But, how and why God did this for us is truly not understandable in human terms!

The best we can do, BY FAITH, is to relax and thank Him for His amazing grace.

Justification by faith is available to ALL men, regardless of stature or culture!

And this truth is so important, that one time the apostle Paul had to rebuke the apostle Peter for compromising this truth!

Let's read the whole passage for a better understanding:

Gal 2:11-21 *"But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. 12 For prior to the coming of certain men from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he began to withdraw and hold himself aloof, fearing the party of the circumcision. 13 The rest of the Jews joined him in hypocrisy, with the result that even Barnabas was carried away by their hypocrisy. 14 But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in the presence of all, "If you, being a Jew, live like the Gentiles and not like the Jews, how is it that you compel the Gentiles to live like Jews?"*

*15 "We are Jews by nature and not sinners from among the Gentiles; 16 nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we may **be justified by faith in Christ** and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified. 17 "But if, while seeking to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have also been found sinners, is Christ then a minister of sin? May it never be! 18 "For if*

I rebuild what I have once destroyed, I prove myself to be a transgressor. 19 "For through the Law I died to the Law, so that I might live to God. 20 "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me. 21 "I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness comes through the Law, then Christ died needlessly."

The one thing we must never do is take away from, or add to, the grace of God in salvation. Otherwise we are taking the glory away from Christ!

He deserves ALL the glory and honor in our salvation. It's by His blood alone that we've been healed.

Either salvation is a gift of God, received by faith, OR it's something you have to earn and work for. But it cannot be both!

Are you going to rely on yourself and your own efforts to save your 'self', OR are you going to receive faith and rely on Christ alone to save you?

It's a clear choice we each must make in our own hearts, and our Lord Jesus left no room to compromise and have it both ways.

Remember, it's the Lord Himself who said *"he who saves his life will lose it, but he who loses his life for My sake will find it."*

Matt 16:24-27 *Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 25 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. 26 For what will it profit a man if he gains the*

whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life? 27 For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.

It's important here to understand that "what he has done" in vs. 27 is the result of faith in Christ Jesus. The true believer follows the Lord, as we've studied, because he's been changed by the Spirit.

One must surrender to the Lord, and **give up** trying to save himself.

Man cannot have it both ways. We each have to ask ourselves; "Who is our Savior going to be?!! (our self, or Christ?!)"

Gal 3:23-26 *"But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, being shut up to the faith which was later to be revealed. 24 Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be **justified by faith**. 25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. 26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.*

The Old Testament revealed to man that he COULDN'T keep the whole Law.

The requirements of God are **perfection**, and man is helpless in light of that, because we are all born in sin. **Rom 5:12**

Therefore, man has NO HOPE of saving himself, against God's standard of perfect righteousness.

Titus 3:4-8 *"But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, 5 He saved us, **not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the***

*washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, 6 whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that being **justified by His grace** we would be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. 8 This is a trustworthy statement; and concerning these things I want you to speak confidently, so that those who have believed God will be careful to engage in good deeds. These things are good and profitable for men.*

Here again we see "good deeds" are the RESULT of faith.

But the only way man can be justified in God's eyes is through the perfect blood of Jesus Christ.

And by grace, He even gives us the faith to believe in His Son, **Eph 2:8-9**.

Through the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross, God was free to extend His grace to sinful mankind.

Because the blood of Christ has paid for our sins, God can now treat us with an undeserved kindness called "grace" in the Bible.

And there we have **justification** for those who place their trust in Christ. God justifies the believer, by grace through faith.

The Invisible Results of Saving Faith: The believer in Christ has been Redeemed! Gal 3:10-14,4:1-7, Tit 2:11-14, Heb 9:11-15, 1Pe 1:17-21

Redemption means purchasing someone out from slavery and delivering them to freedom.

Christ has purchased believers out from slavery to sin and death, and delivered them to a new life as adopted sons and heirs of God!

First, let's see what being a child and an "heir" of God looks like:

Rom 8:14-17 *For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" 16 The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.*

First of all, **Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law**; which was that man had to keep it all PERFECTLY if he were to satisfy God!

Just look at the 10 Commandments and you'll see they're **impossible** for any man to obey without fail.

We saw that in Romans chapters 3 & 4, in our discussion on Justification. Now let's look at **Gal 3**...

Gal 3:10-14 *"For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO DOES NOT ABIDE BY ALL THINGS WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW, TO PERFORM THEM." 11 Now that no one is justified by the Law before God is evident; for, "THE RIGHTEOUS MAN SHALL LIVE BY FAITH." 12 However, the Law is not of faith; on the contrary, "HE WHO PRACTICES THEM SHALL LIVE BY THEM." 13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us — for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE" — 14 in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith."*

How was Abraham saved? - By faith! (**Romans 4**)

And remember, even though Abraham was the first Jew, **he was saved as a Gentile before his circumcision to become Jewish!**

And that's another evidence, to both Jews and Gentiles, that a man is saved by FAITH in Christ and NOT by the works of the Law!

In fact, when Abraham was saved by faith (**Gen 15:6**), the Law hadn't even come yet. It was given to Moses hundreds of years later!

Gal 4:1-7 *"Now I say, as long as the heir is a child, he does not differ at all from a slave although he is owner of everything, 2 but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by the father. 3 So also we, while we were children, were held in bondage under the elemental things of the world. 4 But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, 5 so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. 6 Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" 7 Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and **if a son, then an heir through God.**"*

We can confidently conclude from Holy Scripture that Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law!

But, let's not forget, Christ also came to **redeem us from sin and lawlessness...**

Titus 2:11-14 *"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, 12 instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, 14 **who gave Himself for us to redeem us from***

every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds."

There are two main sides to the sin of man; one side thinks he is good enough on his own to keep the whole Law, and the other side thinks he can live in sin without any consequences.

The Christ came to redeem us from both of those lies!

He redeems anyone who humble themselves before God and places their trust in Christ alone.

And His redeeming us contains a divine plan and purpose, and that includes walking in the good deeds He has designed for us.

Once we've been redeemed, God can then use us for good. **Eph 2:10**

Consider this: man cannot be saved by his own good deeds...

... but AFTER he humbly turns to Christ to be saved, he is given the power of Christ to perform good deeds for God!

Grace gives us a new life unto God, which includes the power and freedom to LIVE in His calling for us as His children.

As it says in **Romans 1:17**; the righteous man shall LIVE BY FAITH.

**Christ has delivered us FROM sin and brought us TO righteousness!
That's redemption!**

It's a total transformation; praise God!

Through Christ, the Lord has done ALL the work for our salvation and redemption.

He paid the full price for our sins on the Cross in order to purchase our freedom once and for all!

For example, in the book of Hebrews, Christ's blood is seen as the FINAL SACRIFICE for sin.

Because of Christ, Old Testament animal sacrifices for our sins are no longer necessary, nor accepted by God.

The Lamb of God, who is Jesus Christ (**John 1:29**), came to be sacrificed ONCE FOR ALL, and His blood has attained for us ETERNAL REDEMPTION.

THAT'S WHY no more animal sacrifices are required to pay for sins.

Heb 9:11-15 *"But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; 12 and not through the blood of goats and calves, but **through His own blood**, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained **eternal redemption**. 13 For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, 14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"*

*15 For this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the **redemption** of the transgressions that were committed under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the **eternal inheritance**.*

Act 20:28 *"Keep watch over yourselves and the entire flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which **He purchased with His own blood.**"*

The only Person this verse could be referring to is the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God. This is one of many scriptures pointing to the fact that Jesus is God in the flesh.

A very important principle emerges: **For redemption to take place, a REAL PRICE must be paid.**

And according to God's Word, **death is required** as payment for sin!
And blood must be shed for the remission of sins!

And thank God, through Jesus' blood we are redeemed from all our transgressions!

1 Pe 1:17-21 *"If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay on earth; 18 knowing that you were not **redeemed** with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, 19 **but with precious blood**, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ. 20 For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you 21 who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God."*

Believers are redeemed by the blood of the Lamb; we are redeemed by the blood of the only One qualified to pay our debt.

Jesus was qualified because He was WITHOUT sin, as we know from **2Co 5:21, 1Pe 2:22, Heb 4:15, 1Jo 3:5.**

Heb 4:14-16 *Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. 15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, **yet without sin.** 16 Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

Our Lord Jesus was totally innocent, and yet, He volunteered to be judged as though He were guilty!

How great the love God has for us! It's by the actions of His selfless love that we can now be called children of God!

Which of you, if you were innocent, would be willing to die for a guilty person??!

We all know the answer to that, if we're honest. But GOD'S love is supernatural.

The Invisible Results of Saving Faith: The believer is said to be "in Christ"! Rom 8:1-4,12:3-5,16:3-10, 1Co 1:2,30,12:12-13, 2Co 5:17, Eph 2:4-10, Phil 1:1-2, Col 1:1-2, 1Pe 5:14

"In Christ" means he is **in union** with Christ; that Christ **indwells** the true believer and therefore he has an eternal **position** "in Christ".

If you have repented and placed your trust in Christ alone to be saved from your sins, then you are "in Christ" forever!!

This is a POSITION you have been placed into by the grace of God!

Let's see some scriptures that reveal this beautiful reality in the true believer's life.

Rom 8:1-4 *"Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. 3 For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, 4 so that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit."*

There you see we believers are said to be "in Christ Jesus".

Rom 12:3-5 *"For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith. 4 For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, 5 so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another."*

All believers are part of the body of Christ, said to be "in Christ".

Rom 16:3-10 *"Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, 4 who for my life risked their own necks, to whom not only do I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles; 5 also greet the church that is in their house. Greet Epaphroditus, my beloved, who is the*

*first convert to Christ from Asia. 6 Greet Mary, who has worked hard for you. 7 Greet Andronicus and Junias, **my kinsmen** and my fellow prisoners, who are outstanding among the apostles, who also were **in Christ** before me. 8 Greet Ampliatus, my beloved **in the Lord**. 9 Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker **in Christ**, and Stachys my beloved. 10 Greet Apelles, the approved **in Christ**. Greet those who are of the household of Aristobulus."*

Here, we clearly see all believers in Christ are brothers in Christ.

Then we see **the baptism of the Spirit** in **1Co 12**, where He places all believers into one body, the body of Christ.

1Co 12:12-13 *"For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ. 13 **For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body**, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit."*

So, if you're a born-again believer, you have been "created in Christ Jesus"...

... and ultimately that's to walk in the good works He has set before you.

But remember, you were first placed "in Christ Jesus" by grace through faith, and not by works!

It was then that He changed you and **made you able** to perform the works He has planned for you, by grace.

Eph 2:4-10 *"But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our transgressions,*

*made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places **in Christ Jesus**, 7 so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us **in Christ Jesus**. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus for good works**, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them."*

Without being placed "in Christ" by the grace of God, man has no power to please God on his own.

But after the believer is placed "in Christ", he has the Lord living inside of him to help perform His will.

And let's see how Paul and Peter greeted believers as "in Christ".

It appears it was the proper way to address someone who had saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ...

1 Pe 5:14 *"Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace be to you all who are **in Christ**."*

Phil 1:1-2 *"Paul and Timothy, bond-servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints **in Christ Jesus** who are in Philippi, including the overseers and deacons: 2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."*

Col 1:1-2 *"Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, 2 To the **saints** and faithful brethren **in Christ** who are at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father."*

Back to the point about spiritual truths intertwining into one spiritual reality...

Notice, "saints" are mentioned regarding those "in Christ".

"Saints" is from the same Greek root as the word "sanctified"; which means **the believer "in Christ" is also made "holy", set apart for Christ as His own possession!**

And this leads us right into our next invisible result of saving faith...

The Invisible Results of Saving Faith: The believer in Christ has been Sanctified! Acts 26:12-18, 1Co 1:2,30,6:9-11, Heb 10:10

Having believed in Christ from the heart, he has been once and for all sanctified, or set apart, for God.

Stay tuned for Part 3 of this series for more about this wonderful reality!