

# Hidden with Christ in God (Tammi Kauffman, Oct 26, 2014)

How would you like to be handed a key that closes the door to fear? Or the key that unlocks the door to your heart, allowing you to experience joy in your relationships? Or maybe your tired of the thoughts inside your head that keep beating you up...how about a key that would take captive all those self-deprecating thoughts?

Hidden in the gospel message, in its entirety, contains one key.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

*For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.*

That's the basic gospel message in a nutshell. Christ's work FOR US is the basic gospel. But, Jesus revealed a deeper application of His finished work to the apostle Paul. He unfolded this revelation so completely and eloquently in His epistles that many refer to it as 'Paul's Gospel' or, the "gospel according to Paul". His basic message is our identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection. His understanding went beyond the basics and unveiled for us the reality of our participation with Him in these things. Us in Christ. Christ in us. The heartbeat of Paul's Gospel. It is that truth....that reality.....that transformed my approach to life, situations, people, and myself.

207 verses-"in Him" or "in Christ". 28-"in God" but not referring to us being in Him. Some do not refer to our identification with Christ: rejoice in Him, trust in Him, etc.

Mystery of the gospel

*"No words of Scripture, if we accept those-'God manifest in the flesh'-hold within themselves a deeper mystery than this formula of the Christian life, "in Christ". WE may speak of being regarded as in Him, and so have reckoned to us the benefits of His atonement. We may speak of being clothed with His righteousness, as so having His worthiness imputed to us. But true as these expressions are, they do not reach the inwardness of meaning contained in the words, "in Christ", or furnish an adequate statement of that deep interior fellowship into which God has called us in His son." A.J. Gordon*

Paul's message, in a nutshell, can be found in Colossians 2:6-15

Read from **NASB**

Jesus spoke of this reality. *Abide in Me, and I in you.*(Jn. 15:4)

He prays to the Father, *"that they also be one in Us. "I in them, and You in me, that they may be made perfect in one."* John 17:21, 23

In many verses where He is speaking of believing in Him, the preposition, "in" is the Greek word, eis, not en. It literally means "motion into" or "out of one thing, into another"

Out of ??? and into ???

We were in Adam, but the moment we believed, we became **in Christ**. It wasn't just a resurrection that occurred. It was a creation of an entirely different race. Out of the race of Adam.....into the race of Christ. New nature, new heart...completely new DNA!

Somehow, this is the mystery, God placed us in His Son on the cross. We were crucified with Him(Gal. 2:20), died with Him(Rom. 6:8), buried with Him(Rom. 6:4), made alive with Him(Eph. 2:5 & Col. 2:13), ascended with Him(Eph. 2:6), and are now seated in heavenly places with Him(Eph. 2:6). In all that Christ did, we were in Him. We are now 'in Him. Once in Adam.....now in Christ. A mystery that cannot be fully comprehended. A mystery with a flip side: Christ in me. A mystery that opens us up to a reality that we step into, walk in and live from.

The key: Col. 3:3 *For you have died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.*  
Testimony of realizing the meaning of this verse.

### **Live fearlessly.**

Let's face it: FEAR SELLS!

Middle school: Coming Ice Age

High School: Communism was toing to take over the world.

Y2K

2001: Attack on our soil and Anthrax scare

2002: West Nile Virus

2003: Weapons of mass destruction

2004: SARS

2005: Bird Flu

2006: E. Coli

2007: Vaccines

2008: Bad Economy

2009: Swine Flu

2011: Obamacare

2013: North Korea

2014: Ebola

ISIS, GMOs and agricultural practices

Do NOT pray from a place of fear.

Christ is in you. He slept through storms.

What can man do to me? I have died...and am now hidden with Christ in God!!

Not a Pollyanna attitude. We don't have our heads buried in the sand unaware of the what's happening in the world. We are very aware of what's going on. But the condition of the world in which we live does not replace the reality of who we are in Christ.

*For many of us, the thing we fear the most is not out there in the world, but up close and personal: rejection, criticism, words.*

### **Love recklessly**

No longer a need for self-protection.

Offenses don't stick. While things may hurt, they need not wound

Hurt: to experience pain, emotionally or physically

Injury: something is physically wrong/alterd as a result of an event

Wound: injury has an external component...skin is broken or there is presence of blood.

Hurts and injuries do not always require bandages. Wounds always do. Wounds require protection until they heal.

Wounding is a far deeper injury than a hurt. Hurts will occur. Offense will come. But, when we are in Christ, neither needs to wound us or stick. They can shower you with all the hatred, bitterness and anger they have, yet it need never touch you because you are hidden with Christ in God.

I'm already dead. Corpses don't react to wounding.

Because your life is hidden with Christ and you are seated with Him in heavenly places, you can respond to everyone in love, sincerely, without effort. You are living in that place of hiddenness with Christ. There is nothing anyone can do to you. You are completely safe and cannot be moved from that place by anything any man can do.

Your response is dictated by the reality of your position in Christ.

What can man do to me? I have died...and am now hidden with Christ in God!!

I'm not talking about walls and and "you can't hurt me" attitude. I'm not suggesting we are untouched by humanity.

*If we're honest, the critical voice that's most difficult to quiet is the one within our own souls.*

### **Live victoriously**

I've been told, "Read the end of the book. We win." I'd like to suggest that we read the middle of the Book. We've already won! Because I am in Christ, His victory is my victory. His defeat of the enemy is my defeat of the enemy.

Too often, we feel like we are defeated though.

Col. 2:11-15:

Disarm, put to open shame, triumph over them

When He did this, you were in Him. You stood beside Him collecting the weapons(Trumpkin). You were in the chariot as He rode through the streets of heaven. You are still there.

The only weapon he has in his arsenal is his voice. That's all. Jesus partook of flesh and blood-became human-so that through His death He might destroy the one who has the power of death...the devil.(Heb. 2:14-15) And you were in Him when He did.

What can the enemy do to me? I have died...and am now hidden with Christ in God!! The very ones who conquered the enemy!!

I don't mean we walk around acting like we're just great. That we have no responsibility. All around me may be evidence of one who is a loser...but the reality is we are all victors!

If we could place the ability to do battle with the enemy on a scale of 1-10, where do you suppose Jesus would be? So, if you are in Him, where would you be?

Spiritual warfare simply is a defeated, powerless enemy mouthing off to you trying to get you to forget who you are and climb out of your place with Him in the chariot.

We need to renew our minds. We renew our minds by meditating on the truths He gives us through His word, in our worship, during our talks with Him.

2 Cor. 2:14

*But thanks be to God who **always** leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of Him everywhere.*

The world will see you

- Sleeping through the storms and not rattled by the news nor riddled with worry and anxiety.
- Returning blessing for cursing; love for bitterness; acceptance in the face of rejection;
- Confident when facing the impossible

“Napoleon said, “The object of war is victory and the object of victory is occupation.” This is so true, but the object of occupation is transformation. –Kris Vallotton

Christ has won a great victory on the cross. As a result of that victory, He now occupies our heart. But, the object of that occupation is transformation.

Transformation of ourselves.....our families.....our church.....our town.....our nation....our world.

Transformation that allows us to live fearlessly in a dangerous world.

Transformation that frees us to love recklessly in every relationship.

Transformation that brings joy and confidence into the most difficult areas of our lives.

MINISTRY TIME: Group Sozo as the Holy Spirit leads.