

# Christ In You!

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If you read the Gospels you see time and time again that Jesus only preached one Gospel. He preached the Gospel of the Kingdom of God. He left heaven, gave up all his heavenly privileges (Phil 2:5-8) and walked as a man on the earth and yet He did amazing and outstanding things. Everywhere He went people were healed and restored and people were astonished at both the content and authority of His teachings. The people who came into contact with Him saw that when He acted, God acted. They were aware of the invisible presence of God acting within the visible reality and action of Jesus, the carpenter turned Rabbi.

Jesus came as an example to show us how to walk this faith journey and He walked it by allowing the invisible reality of God to flow out of Him. We therefore must do the same. The Kingdom Jesus taught about and preached about comes on the earth now when we let Him act through us into our world. The interesting thing is that this Kingdom does NOT come from outside of us! Many people are still believing and still waiting for God to do something, for fire to fall and Holy Ghost anointing to be released. The truth is He has already done everything, the fire has already fallen and the anointing has already been released!

It does seem however that this truth is a mystery to many believers which is evident in the way they pray, the songs they sing and the way they speak. The truth though is that it is not a mystery because according to Col 1:27 "...God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."

This revelation that Paul writes about is breath-taking and unless we receive it, and start to believe it, then we will be unable to operate successfully in the Kingdom of God.

Christ in you, the hope of glory

This truth; "*Christ in you*", is a central truth to understanding and prospering in the Kingdom of God and is the starting point for fulfilling all that Jesus taught about the Kingdom. This truth is mentioned in at least 3 other places in scripture; in Eph 3:17 Paul prays that "*Christ dwell in your hearts through faith*", in Rom 8:10 he writes, "*Christ is in you*"; and again in 2 Cor 13:15 he states, "*Christ is in you!*".

Is it really true that Christ could be in me, that He could actually be resident in my heart, in the centre of my being? I believe so and this is very exciting when you consider the Christ who is described by Paul in the earlier verses in Colossians 1.

Verse 15 tells us that He is the “*image of the invisible God*”. When Jesus walked the earth He was the visible reality of the invisible God. He brought an invisible God into view, so people could see Him on the earth. Verse 16 & 17 tell us that Christ is the One who brought all things into being and who holds all things together and He lives in you! Why then do we worry when it feels like things are falling apart because the truth is that the One who holds everything together is in us?

Verse 19 tells us that Christ is “*the fullness of God*”. Therefore if Christ lives in you that means that the fullness of God dwells in you! Can you even consider that? The whole, complete fullness of the Godhead resides in you! So is it any reason that when we pray prayers of lack and unbelief they don’t get answered! You already have His fullness in you. We might not have learnt to release that fullness yet but that is not to deny that the fullness lives in us!

Verse 20 states that He has made peace and therefore is peace. Shalom, complete healing of body, soul and spirit is in you. According to verse 22 the One who is holy, blameless and free from accusation is in you. “*In His sight*” you are holy, blameless and above reproach. How can you be under accusation if you have the perfect One in you?

How can you be under accusation if you have the perfect One in you?

Paul continues in Col 2:3 and says that in this Christ who is in you “*are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge*”. The One who possesses all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge is in you.

Everything you need in terms of wisdom and knowledge is already in you, but this wisdom and knowledge is “*hidden*”. You don’t need anyone to teach you all things but you need someone to reveal all things to you. In a sense those who preach and teach are not teachers but revealers of mysteries. They are not sharing anything you don’t already know but they help you unveil and find those treasures of wisdom and knowledge. They bring you understanding of what you already have.

Verse 10 tells us that we “*are complete in Him*”. He has already provided everything that we need to be complete in every way. So whatever issue you are facing, whatever you are struggling with, whatever you are going through. The answer to it all is found in Him. I suspect though that many of us go looking elsewhere. We want to get our solutions from other places, often because we don’t like the way Jesus asks us to do things.

Verse 11 in the Message reads: *“Entering into this fullness is not something you figure out or achieve. It’s not a matter of being circumcised or keeping a long list of laws. No, you’re already in—insiders—not through some secretive initiation rite but rather through what Christ has already gone through for you, destroying the power of sin.”*

He has already provided everything that we need to be complete in every way

Coming into the fullness of what God has for you is not something you achieve but something you receive. If we are going to see His Kingdom come on the earth then we have to start to believe the truth of the Word. Christ is in you! I understand that we might not have learnt to release that fullness yet because there is still too much of us that is in the way but that is not to deny the truth that Christ lives in you!

Too often we are too focused and fixated upon our weakness, our lack, our fears and our emotions. Isn’t it about time you focused on the Christ in you? Most of us live in a place of possibility about the Christ in us. It’s possible God could do some things through me we say. He might use me to do something. We need to move from possibility to probability to reality. We must choose to believe that the God of heaven lives in us, that the Christ, the anointed One, the all-powerful One lives in us. And that as we speak and act we release the power of the Christ everywhere we go.

The Kingdom of God invades the earth through you. Every time you release the Christ in you, you see His Kingdom manifest on the earth. Jesus Christ was the visible reality of an invisible God on the earth. Today that same Jesus Christ lives in you and you are to carry on His task of making the invisible God visible. That’s what it means for the Kingdom of God to come on the earth.