

IN CHRIST



*But of [God] are ye in Christ Jesus.
—1 Corinthians 1:30*

The expression "*in Christ*" is often used in the Epistles. The Christian cannot read God's Word correctly, nor experience its full power in his life, until he prayerfully and believably accepts this truth: I am in Christ Jesus.

The Lord Jesus, on the last night with His disciples, used this expression more than once. He said that when the Spirit had been poured out, "*at that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.*" (John 14:20). And then follows, "*Abide in Me....He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit*" (John 15:4-5); "*If ye abide in me...ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you*" (v. 7). But the Christian cannot take hold of these promises unless he first prayerfully accepts the words, "*in Christ*."

Paul expressed the same thought in Romans: "*We are buried with Him*" (Rom. 6:4); we are "*dead indeed to sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord*" (v. 11); "*There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus*" (Rom. 8:1). In Ephesians, Paul wrote that God "*hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings...in Christ*" (Eph. 1:3); He has "*chosen us in Him*" (v. 4); and "*he hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption*" (vv. 6-7). And in Colossians we find: "*In him dwelleth all the fulness*" (Col. 2:9); we are "*perfect in Christ Jesus*" (Col. 1:28); "*walk ye in him*" (Col. 2:6); "*And ye are complete in him*" (v. 10).

Let your faith take hold of these words: it is God who establishes us in Christ. (See 2 Corinthians 1:21.) "*He which establisheth...you in Christ.*" The Holy Spirit will make it your experience. Pray earnestly, and follow the leading of the Spirit. The word will take root in your heart, and you will realize something of its heavenly power. But remember that abiding in Christ is a matter of the heart. It must be cultivated in a spirit of love. Only as you take time from day to day in fellowship with Christ will the abiding in Christ become a blessed reality, and the inner man will be renewed from day to day.