

**“continue to live  
your lives in him”**

Colossians 2:6-15

**“continue to live your lives in him”**

**Colossians 2:6-7**

**6** So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, **7** rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

**“continue to live your lives in him”**

**Romans 12:1-2**

**1**Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God - this is your spiritual act of worship. **2** Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is - his good, pleasing and perfect will.

**“continue to live your lives in him”**

**“Paul uses the illustration of our being rooted in Christ. Just as plants draw nourishment from the soil through their roots, so we draw our life-giving strength from Christ. The more we draw our strength from Him, the less we will be fooled by those who claim to have life’s answers. If Christ is our strength, we will be free from human regulations.”**

**NIV 1984 Life Application Bible**

# **“in Christ”**

## **Colossians 2:8-12**

**8** See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world[ the elemental spiritual forces]rather than on Christ.

**9** For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, **10** and in you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.

# **“in Christ”**

**[takes you captive means robbery]. “False teachers who are successful in getting people to believe lies, rob them of truth, salvation, and blessing.”**

**MacArthur NIV 2011 Study Bible**

# **“in Christ”**

**“Not only does the power and authority of God belong to the resurrected Christ, but believers share in it by virtue of their incorporation into Him.”**

**Zondervan Illustrated Bible  
Background Commentary**

# **“in Christ”**

**11** In him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the circumcision done by Christ, **12** having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

# **“in Christ”**

**“At salvation, believers undergo a spiritual “circumcision” by putting off the sins of the flesh. This is the new birth, the new creation in conversion. The outward affirmation of the already inner transformation is now the believer’s baptism.”**

**MacArthur NIV 2011 Study Bible**

# **“in Christ”**

**“The most serious error of the false teachers at Colossae was that they went about their spiritual lives with only natural insight. They did not go to God to learn of him, nor did they learn from the revelation of Christ that was available to them.”**

**Richard Melick**

# **“in Christ”**

## **Human “systems”**

- **Fascism**
- **Nazism**
- **Socialism**
- **Communism**
- **Anarchism**
- **“Ophraism”**

# **“in Christ”**

## **False Christianity**

- **Jehovah’s Witness**
- **Mormonism**
- **Prosperity “Gospel”**

# **“in Christ”**

**“When you know Jesus Christ you don’t need to seek God by means of other religions, cults, or unbiblical philosophies as the Colossians were doing. Christ alone holds the answers to the true meaning of life, because He is life. Christ is the unique source of knowledge and power for the Christian life. No Christian needs anything in addition to what Christ has provided to be saved.”**

# **“dead in your sins”**

## **Colossians 2:13-15**

**13** When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, **14** having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and stood apposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. **15** And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

# **“dead in your sins”**

**“Jesus has cancelled the note of indebtedness believers have with God. Consequently, all the penalties God has threatened because humanity has defaulted in its obligations to Him are declared null and void because of Christ’s work on the cross. Paul creatively takes the image one step further by saying that Christ has taken the note away from us and nailed it to the cross.”**

# **“dead in your sins”**

## **Ephesians 2:1-10**

**1** As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, **2** in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

**3** All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts.

**Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. 4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions — it is by grace you have been saved. 6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus**

**7** in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. **8** For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - **9** not by works, so that no one can boast. **10** For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

# **“dead in your sins”**

## **Complete in Christ:**

- **Putting off the flesh (v.11)**
- **Resurrection from spiritual death (v.12-13)**
- **Forgiveness (v.14)**
- **Deliverance from legalistic requirements (v.14)**
- **Deliverance from evil spiritual beings (v.15)**

# **“dead in your sins”**

**“The cross of Christ marks the decisive defeat of the demonic powers. On the cross, they were stripped of their power to accuse Christians before God. Nevertheless, these demons continue to exist and to exercise power to incite evil, so Christians must continue to struggle with them.”**

**ESV Study Bible**

# **“dead in your sins”**

**“...God has put the principalities and powers on public display as defeated enemies through Christ’s death and resurrection. The demonic rulers and evil spirits are led in celebration as vanquished enemies. The Lord Jesus Christ is due all praise, honor, and glory as the victorious general.”**

**Zondervan Illustrated Bible  
Background Commentary**

# Applications

- **Believe and trust in Christ alone**
- **Read the Word**
- **Be doers of the Word**

# Final Thoughts

**“Part of the reason that we stumble and lose heart in the midst of our struggles is because we do not recognize and fully appreciate our position in Christ. Our knowledge about Christ and His works impacts how we live and see ourselves.**

**Recognizing the meaning and implications of our relationship to Christ should have a profound impact on how we live day to day.”**

# Final Thoughts

**“We do not need to brood over the past. We realistically experience a new life in Christ. The imagery of “the written code” nailed to the cross reminds us that every single transgression against our God has been completely forgiven on the basis of the work of Christ.”**

**Zondervan Illustrated Bible  
Background Commentary**

# Final Thoughts

## Romans 10:9-10

**9** If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

**10** For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.