

THE CHRISTIAN MANIFESTO

“I have been crucified with Christ; 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 for me”

Introduction

- 1) **Galatians 2:20** – this great statement of Paul could be called the Christian “manifesto”
 - a) **“Manifesto”** = a public declaration of principles and purpose
 - 2) Paul describes the divinely-revealed principles and purpose of being a Christian
 - a) This should be the same for anyone who is a Christian
 - 3) The four phrases of Galatians 2:20 form an outline of the teaching of Romans 6
 - a) A study of Romans 6 will help us better understand the great declaration of Galatians 2:20
- I) **“I have been crucified with Christ” → Romans 6:1-7**
- A) Declaration of **identification**
 - 1) Those who are baptized are baptized “into Christ Jesus” – spiritual union is established
 - B) “Crucified with Christ”
 - 1) Body of sin done away with; die to fleshly desires and the world (Gal. 5:24; 6:14-15)
 - 2) Raised to newness of life, freed from sin (2 Cor. 5:17)
 - C) This change (death to sin, raised to life) takes place when one is baptized
 - 1) Sins washed away in baptism (Acts 22:16); put on Christ in baptism (Gal. 3:26-27)
 - 2) Baptism not a picture of salvation already received; it is vital part of receiving salvation
- II) **“It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me” → Romans 6:8-11**
- A) Declaration of **empowerment**
 - 1) Once dead in sin, the obedient Christian is now alive to God in Christ
 - B) Christian is made spiritually alive in Christ who forever lives (Eph. 1:18-20; 2:4-5)
 - 1) Christian is continually strengthened by Christ (Phil. 4:13; Jn. 15:5)
 - C) Christ lives in us by faith through His word (Jn. 15:7-8; Eph. 3:17; Rom. 10:17; Jn. 8:31-32)
- III) **“The life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God” → Romans 6:12-22**
- A) Declaration of **manner of life**
 - 1) Instruments of righteousness, slaves of righteousness, bear fruit to holiness
 - B) Christian’s manner of life has been prepared and is taught by God (Eph. 2:10)
 - C) Our life must be consistent with our claim (Eph. 4:1; 1 Pet. 1:15)
 - 1) What fruit are you bearing for the Lord? What would you do with a barren tree?
 - D) The end result for the faithful Christian is eternal life (2 Pet. 1:10-11)
- IV) **“Who loved me and gave Himself for me” → Romans 6:23**
- A) Declaration of **motive**
 - 1) The free gift of God was made available by a loving and sacrificial Savior
 - B) We love God because He loved, sought, and provided us with salvation (1 Jn. 4:19)
 - C) Jesus willingly gave Himself for us (Jn. 10:14-18; Eph. 5:25)
 - D) God’s wonderful love teaches (1 Jn. 5:3), constrains (2 Cor. 5:14), brings hope (Rom. 5:5), and motivates (1 Jn. 4:11)

Conclusion

What is the manifesto of *your* life? What do you declare in word and deed? Is it truly what Paul declared? Be crucified with Christ today – **Identify yourself with him through obedience**

Allow His word to empower your life

Live your manner of life by faith in Christ

Let His love motivate you toward your eternal hope