

Timothy ... will remind you of my way of life in Christ Jesus, which agrees with what I teach everywhere in every church.

Paul - 1 Corinthians 4:17 (NIV)

# In Christ

Or don't you know that all of those who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death...burial...and resurrection.

Paul - Romans 6:3-5 (NIV)

David Kuykendall Ministries

Winter 2006

Volume 7, Number 1

Obey the five commands listed below and experience your life "in Christ." Experience the abundant life through living by grace. Notice that each command is either to believe something or to choose to do something.

## THE FIVE COMMANDS

### Believe

Romans 6:11

Reckon (believe) yourselves to be dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord

### Choose

Romans 6:12

Do not let sin reign in your mortal body that you should obey it in its lusts

### Choose

Romans 6:13a

Do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin

### Choose/Believe

Romans 6:13b

Present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead.

### Choose

Romans 6:13c

[Present] your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

We can and should obey each of these commands because Romans 6:3-5 teaches that all believers have been baptized into Jesus and as a result all believers have been baptized into his death, burial, and resurrection.

## Freedom From Pride

By David Kuykendall

We were all born into this world with a sin nature—a "know-it-all-attitude." Such an attitude is the deepest form of pride, which is faith in ourselves. Hebrews 11:6 says that it is impossible for us to please God without faith. Since, according to 2 Corinthians 1:8-9, it is impossible for us to have faith in God and faith in ourselves at the same time, in order to please God we must have freedom from faith in ourselves—our pride.

When we experience the crucifixion of our flesh, we experience the crucifixion of our pride. It is this experience that frees us from faith in ourselves that we might have faith in God.

There is, though, another work of God to free us from pride. It is vividly demonstrated in the lives of Paul and Job. It first, though, must be shown that each had a problem with pride.

In 2 Corinthians 12:1-7 Paul testifies that he was in danger of becoming exceedingly proud because of his experience with God in the third heaven.

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There are many passages expressing the pride of Job. One of those passages is Job 40:1-14. God is speaking. In verses 8-10 He says:

*"Would you indeed annul My judgment? Would you condemn Me that you may be justified? Have you an arm like God? Or can you thunder with a voice like His? Then adorn yourself with majesty and splendor, And array yourself with glory and beauty."*

The work that God did to save Paul from the danger of being overly proud and Job from a lifetime of pride was suffering.

Paul testifies that God sent his thorn-in-the-flesh to keep him safe from the danger of becoming overly proud (2 Corinthians 12:7).

Most of the suffering of Job is known by many. He lost his animals and his children in one day. On a later day he lost his health.

In Job chapter 30 he tells of his loss of influence and respect, his family, and his friends. He also says he is a friend of jackals and a companion to ostriches. He went from being the most influential and respected man in his community to being the most rejected and loneliest man in his community.

According to chapters 38 through 41, Job also suffered much inwardly as God told him that he was not as righteous as he thought he was and he was not as important as he thought he was.

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*Job also suffered much within when God, in Job chapters 38-41, told him that he was not as righteous as he thought he was and he was not as important as he thought he was.*

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In the suffering of both Paul and Job, God used Satan. In 2 Corinthians 12:7 Paul writes that Satan was involved in God sending his thorn-in-the-flesh.

On two occasions God gave Satan permission to bring suffering to Job. The result was the loss of his animals, his children, and his health. On each occasion, God was the one who first mentioned Job.

The suffering that gave deliverance from pride to both Paul and Job also resulted in great blessing to each.

After the thorn-in-the-flesh, Paul testifies that his deliverance from pride resulted in grace which made him strong. He also testifies that he rejoices in suffering because of the grace—the strength—it brings to him.

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At the end of Job's story of suffering, he said to God:

*"I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You. Therefore I abhor myself, And repent in dust and ashes."* Job 42:5-6

Job was not repenting of his sins. He was repenting of his sin nature—his pride.

Following Job's repentance of his sin nature, Job entered into a new life of spiritual service to others. He received from God both material blessings and family blessings.

The deliverance from pride in the lives of Paul and Job through suffering is an important message to all believers.

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Admittedly, we bring some sufferings on our selves by our sins. Much of our suffering, however, is strictly a work of the sovereignty of God.

Whatever the causes of our sufferings may be, God is always dealing with our faith in ourselves that we might have faith in him.

We also can be sure that God has something good coming our way when we suffer. The good thing may be power for service to God and others, family blessings,

and even material blessings. The nature of the blessing is in the hands of God.

But we can be certain that blessings from God are on their way when we suffer.

In some cases of extremely painful suffering, it may be sometime before we see what the blessing is.

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### NEW BOOK PRINTINGS

We soon will have "Our Oneness With Christ" printed in India to be distributed there.

In preparation for the printing, we were asked to prepare "Oneness" in regular book size but with the workbook content. So our new book will contain the "REVIEW THE CHAPTER" exercises at the end of each chapter. It will be printed in English. We have completed the preparation of the manuscript. Soon we will have distribution of the book in India.

We are in need of a new supply of "Our Oneness With Christ" for our own distribution. Those books will be printed in the United States using the same format and content as the books printed in India.

We also are in need of having a new supply of "Our Oneness With Christ Workbook." It will be printed with the same content as the two other printings. Its size, though, will be the same as in earlier printings of the workbook.

There will be some minor changes in the text of "Oneness" and the workbook. Not any of changes, though, affect the content and message of the books.

We still have some copies of "Our Oneness With Christ" in its present form.

### BOOKS ARE FREE

We distribute our books without charge. Three years ago, the Lord impressed us to make gifts of our books trusting Him for the resources to have them printed. He lays the need on the hearts of different ones who support the work financially.

You can find the names of our books on our Web Site. Our address is:

[www.livingbygrace.org](http://www.livingbygrace.org)

With one exception, all of our books are on the theme of the believer's oneness with Christ

The exception is a book titled "Assurance" written by Dr. Gene Reynolds. It teaches how born-again believers can have assurance of their salvation.

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### Seminar

Soon we will announce a date for a seminar introducing the message of the believer's union with Christ. The seminar will be conducted at Kessler Park Baptist church of Oak Cliff in Dallas. It will include testimonies by some whose lives have been changed by the message.

Book orders, newsletter contributions, or tax-deductible contributions may be sent to:

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