

50 POSITIONAL TRUTHS

#14: Buried with Christ

The one who, by faith, accepts Jesus Christ as personal Savior, is identified with Jesus Christ in all that He has accomplished. That one is joined to Jesus Christ in His death, in His burial, and in His resurrection.

Jesus' physical body was buried in the tomb for three days and thus under the power of death for three days. When Christ died, you, as a believer in Jesus Christ, died with Him, and that death positionally broke sin's control over you. Just as our sins and sin nature were identified with Christ on the Cross so as to be dead so the burial further emphasizes the death of the old sinful self. Christ died and was buried, and positionally we are so identified with Him that we were with Him as our sins were judged and *buried*.

A very common misconception is that Christians are to put themselves to death. But death can be experienced by an individual only once. The Christian way of life is not repeated death and burial—putting oneself to death again and again and again in order to be delivered from bondage to sin. Rather, the Word of God directs us to reckon or believe in the positional truth that we are dead unto the sin nature and *alive* to God through Jesus Christ. God is asking us to stand off and look at ourselves as dead and buried in respect to sin's authority over our lives. We are now free to walk in newness of life. When we sin it is never because we are obligated to do so but because we choose to do so. We need to identify ourselves with Christ as the Father has identified us.

Again, positional truths are not experiential but their applications are. When we believed in Jesus Christ we did not feel dead and buried. The fact that God has so identified us with Christ in His death and burial means that He has given us the resources to live in those Realities. Christian water baptism symbolizes the positional truths of death and burial of the old man with Christ, and the coming up to new life.

Positional truth:

#14 Buried with Christ

Romans 6:4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

Colossians 2:12 having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

Pastor Don