

## “Christ in You”

by Wayne Goff

### “... Which is Christ in you, the hope of glory” Colossians 1:27

The hope of all Christians, of every nation, is Christ in them. What does this mean? How is Christ **in** us?

## Baptized Into Christ

The apostle Paul explains *simply* how we are **in** Christ: “Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?” (Romans 6:3). We are baptized into Christ when we are baptized for the remission of our sins, Acts 2:38. “For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ” (Galatians 3:26–27). Again we see that we are baptized **into** Christ. Prior to baptism, one is **not in** Christ. At the point of baptism, one is **in** Christ. It’s that simple. But this does not answer our question. We are not asking how one gets into Christ, but how Christ gets into the Christian!

## Christ In You!

“That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love,” (Ephesians 3:17). So now we see that Christ is **in** us when He dwells in our hearts through the Faith of the gospel.

Secondly, Christ’s Word must dwell in our hearts and minds if we are to have Christ in us: “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord” (Colossians 3:16). It makes sense to say that Christ is **in** our hearts by faith when our minds are contemplating His Word.

Thirdly, Christ is truly **in** us when His will is being done through us as if it were Christ Himself! “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” (Galatians 2:20).

## The Hope of Glory

Now the  **blessing** of Christ **in** us is the hope of eternal life! This is the one goal, the one object of the Christian on earth — to enter the blessed rest called heaven one day! Paul tells us that when Christ is **in** you, you have that hope.

## Is Christ **In** You?

It requires *continued growth* on the part of the Christian to have Christ in us as He should be. The previous paragraphs pointed out that Christ is **not** in us until we have His faith in our hearts through a careful study and understanding of His Word. Some Christians seem to be oblivious to this truth, and are satisfied to “sit in the pew” until eternity overtakes them! Dear brethren, this is not what God has promised! There is **the very real danger** of losing your eternal reward by not growing and developing as you should from the heart outward!

The apostle Paul was concerned about his brethren in Galatia, and wrote these words: “My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you,” (Galatians 4:19). Yes, one is “born again” of the water and the Spirit (John 3:3, 5; Titus 3:5) when he is baptized. But if *Christ is not formed in you*, according to Paul, then you need to be “born” yet again!

What good is it for a baby to be born to its mother only to die a few months later? What good is it for one to be born again in the waters of baptism only to lose his spiritual life through malnutrition?! And to make matters even worse, some teach that once one is “born again” he can never lose his salvation! If that is so, then why did the apostle Paul not know it?!

Study God’s Word, meditate on its truths, learn to value the spiritual and eternal over the material and finite — **be sure Christ is in you!**

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