

"If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God." Colossians 3:1 KJV



The Apostle's use of the past tense is exciting! He doesn't use "will rise" or "are rising," he says "risen." Eternal Life is PRESENT TENSE for believers, because our resurrection is past tense. My body commanded my soul when I was "dead (separated from God) in trespasses and sin," but it does no longer. It is now my soul's servant, because "If any man be in Christ, he is A NEW CREATURE: old things are passed away; behold, ALL THINGS are become new." If believers allow lust to control their soul, they again serve the death of "trespasses and sin," even though they are slave no longer to it. "Know ye not, that TO WHOM YE YIELD yourselves servants (choose) to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience (of God's Word) unto righteousness? But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, IF so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you (through repentance and salvation). For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit (of Truth) do mortify (kill) the deeds of the body, ye shall live. I can do all things through Christ (God's Word) which strengtheneth me." Believers are timid and apprehensive when it comes to grasping the reality and power of eternal Life. If I've called on Jesus and repented, I am in Christ, regardless of any sin my body tempts me to do. I simply need to confess the sin, (agree with God's Word that it is sin) repent, (forsake the sin; if you don't, you haven't repented) and return to obedience. I can be faithful, because I am already "risen." I'm not awaiting eternal Life, I am living it! Indeed, my spirit and soul await the resurrection of my body, which God will change, but my flesh does not preclude the reality of my eternal Life. "We shall all be changed...at the Last Trump...and the dead shall be raised incorruptible. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. Then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, 'Death is swallowed up in victory.' It doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, WHEN HE SHALL APPEAR, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is." If I am in Christ, my physical form is not who I am any longer. I do not have to await immortality. I am immortal, in Christ! Stop analyzing Truth with flawed equipment. The body is "carnal, sold under sin, and cannot perceive spiritual things." Instead of my soul obeying the body, I need to make it obey my "new" spirit as it communes with the Quickening Spirit of God. A believer's immortal body will enable them to experience the immortality they already possess!

If I with Christ arisen be,
I now live in eternity,
What I shall be I cannot see,
But faith makes it reality. -CGP

The supernatural surrounds us, but our physical senses cannot perceive it, because "the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God...because they are spiritually discerned," but we may see now, through faith and love, the reality of eternity. Without faith and love, like a blind man, I cannot see!

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me." Galatians 2:20 KJV