**R825 - Rumination for November 22, 2020 by K.C. Ung**

The **T**heme: **Christ in Me, and I in Him**[berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com/)

The **T**ext: *-* *I am* ***C****rucified with* ***C****hrist: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but* ***Christ liveth in Me****:* Gal. 2:20

The **T**hots:

Intro: It should be the aspiration of every **C**hristian to be identified with and in **C**hrist:

1. **The Model for Our Identification** – Christ, our High Priest of the Order of Melchizedek. Heb. 10:21
2. He was **M**ade a **M**an in order that He **M**ight be a High Priest to offer His life to die for us.
3. He took on the **S**imilitude of Man. Phil. 2:7

He *took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:*

1. He **S**uffered and tasted death for every man – He died that we might live! Heb. 2:9

*But we see Jesus, Who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death…*

*that He by the grace of God should taste death for every man.*

1. He was the High Priest Who **S**acrificed Himself and by Himself. Heb. 8:3

 *For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices:*

 *wherefore it is of necessity that this Man have somewhat also to offer.*

* My Identification with Him: Now I can Live because He died. Gal. 2:20

 *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.*

1. He was a **M**erciful High Priest to **M**ake reconciliation for the Sins of His people. Heb. 2:17

 *Wherefore in all things it behoved Him…to be a merciful and faithful high priest…*

 *to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.*

* My Identification with Him: now I need to be an ambassador for Christ. II. Cor. 5:19, 20

 *God…hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ…*

1. He was a High Priest of the Order of **M**elchizedek. Heb. 5:10

*Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec.*

1. He is King - *this Melchisedec, king of* ***S****alem*Heb. 7:1a
2. He is Priest – as Melchisedec was the *priest of the most high God.* Heb. 7:1b
3. Thus He is the unique King-Priest.
* Identification with Christ: [See #B below] I Pet. 2:5, 9
1. **The Manner of Our Identification with Him.** [See #B3 - “Identification with Christ above”]
2. We are **I**dentified with Him as Priests –
3. We are *a holy priesthood* – We offer up **S**piritual **S**acrifices to and **W**orship God. **I Pet. 2:5**

*Ye…are…an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.*

1. The **I**mplications of Worship – We come with our Sacrifices to Worship His Worth, and Him alone!

*By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually…* Heb. 13:15

1. The **I**nstitution of Worship – Jn. 4:23, 24

*The hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father*

*in spirit and in truth:* *for the Father seeketh such to worship Him.*

*God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.*

1. The **I**nvitation to Worship. Heb. 10:19, 20
	* *Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,*

*By a new and living way, which He hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, His flesh*

* + ***Let us*** *draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith…* Heb. 10:22

1. We are a royal priesthood. **1 Pet. 2:9**
*But ye are…. a royal priesthood…that ye should shew forth the praises of Him*

 *Who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light:*

1. We **S**how forth His **P**raises and **W**itness for Him. I Pet. 2:9

We *shew forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light*:

1. And one day we shall Reign with the **P**otentate. Rev. 20:6

*…they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.*

*If we suffer, we shall also reign with Him: if we deny Him, he also will deny us:* II Tim. 2:12

1. **The Maintenance of our Identification. Heb. 10:22**
2. Have the **C**onsecrated Heart of a True Worshipper: See #B.1.a.ii

***Let us*** *draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith…*

1. Have a **C**lean **C**onscience: *having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience,*
2. Have a **C**leansed Body: *and our bodies washed with pure water.*

Conclusion: The **C**ommitment to be Identified with **C**hrist and His **C**ommunity. Heb.10:23-25

***Let us*** *hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for He is faithful that promised;*

*And* ***let us*** *consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:*

*Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together…as ye see the day approaching.*

In the meanwhile, **Let Us** **C**ommemorate the **R**emembrance of our Lord at His Supper to Worship Him.

*For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till He come*. I Cor. 11:26



**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 825**

1. Someone has well-pointed out the difference between "Our **Identity**in Christ" or "**My Identity** in Christ” with "**Identifying** with Christ".

It is claimed that *many, even among believers, look for their Identity (who am I?)* *in worldly success, accomplishments, exam results, abilities, skills, relationships, "likes" in social media, etc.* *When these are taken away, they dive right into depression.****"Who I am" can only be found in Christ.****Perhaps, it is by****Identifying with Christ****that we find our****Identity in Christ****.*

When Paul stated: *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*. (Gal. 2:20). He was identifying Himself **with** Christ.

Then he became very specific to state in Phil. 3:4-8:

*Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more: 5  Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; 6  Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.7  But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.
8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ.* Indeed here we see Paul’s identity solely placed **in** Christ.

His *Confidence* ***in*** *the flesh* could also be summed up in our confidence and so-called identification in our gains in our careers, successes, businesses, projects, and as stated earlier inour *worldly success, accomplishments, exam results, abilities, skills, relationships, "likes" in social media, etc.* *When these are taken away, they dive right into depression…*

With Paul having the right perspective of being identified with Christ and in Christ, he was then able to say: (Phi. 3:8) - *Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,*

For Paul, the loss of all his “gains” in life did not plummet him into depression, because he was first identified with Christ (Remember: the life he lived was no more his, but Christ living in him), therefore, though he had lost His gains, He still found his full fulfilment in life in Christ as He stated: (Phil. 1:20-21)

*According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.*

Has the present Corona Virus\_19 pandemic that has struck the world in such devastating destructions affected you in any way? It must have – to a greater or less extent. No one seems to be able to escape from its penetration into one’s life. The relevant question is how deeply affected are you by its presence amid you or in you?

If you are identified with Christ, when you suffer the loss of the things that are precious to you, or that sustain you, then you still can rise up above these circumstances. Your loss of your so-called gains should lead you to gain Christ the more, and be identified in Christ. When you lose some of these things you treasure, and you can still find your “gains” in Christ, then you can be sure He will much more than make up for your loss with what He will give you in His own way what you lose. As Paul said, He gained Christ!

Are you so identified with Christ to be able to be identified in Christ and not in your accomplishments that today you can still look up to Him to lead you on in spite of the loss of some of your gains in life before Covid-19? **REFLECT**.

1. John had this wonderful Motto: (John 3:30) - *He must increase, but I must decrease*.

Paul’s Motto in life was not much different. He stated:

*According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed,*

*but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body,*

*whether it be by life, or by death.* What is yours today? **REFLECT**

**Points To Ponder:**

*Only when one is Identified* ***with*** *Christ, can one find his or her Identity* ***in*** *Christ.*