

Colossians 3:4 When Christ who is **our life** appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

Here we have a special comfort — that the coming of Christ will be the manifestation of our true and eternal life. But this is not just for everyone. It is for **those who have Christ as their life** upon this earth, those that have tasted His goodness, those that have known His smile of salvation upon their souls. Who have set their affections on him whom they have not seen, and yet they believe, then "When Christ, who is your life, shall appear, then shall you also appear with him in glory."

From our text we can glean some deep and helpful truths.

1. that Christ is our life.
2. Christ is hidden and so is our life.
3. that when He appears, we, also, shall appear with Him in glory.

1. "CHRIST WHO IS OUR LIFE."

This rich expression can be seen all through the New Testament. Let us look at some of the rich examples. In John's Gospel. *"In Him was life and the life was the light of men."* John 1:4. We see it again when Lazarus was raised from the dead. *"I am the resurrection and the life."* John 11:25. Jesus is the Life. ... *"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."*

How closely and with such understanding and affection John holds fast to this truth, '**Christ is our Life.**' He does not say – Christ is the food of our life or the joy of our life. He says, '**CHRIST IS OUR LIFE.**' John must place his head upon the master's bosom. He can't have any distance between Him and the saviour. He must be as close as possible. That the saviour may hear every whisper. John was known as the disciple who Jesus loved. But also the Apostle Paul so close and loved so much.

We must have this same deep love and closeness we must make Christ the source of our life. **John 5:21** For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will.

God's promise is **Verily Verily**, I say unto you, Truly truly, **John 5:24** "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me **has everlasting life**, and shall not come into judgment, **but has passed from death into life.** And then we also read in **John 5:25** Verily, verily, I say unto you,

The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: **and they that hear shall live.**

There is no maybe only a double positive. You shall live. Just as Lazarus was physically dead we who are dead in sin must hear the same voice that raises Lazarus- hearing and believing will raise us, and bring us out of the grave of sin. We hear Gods word and live **Ephesians 5:14** Therefore He says: "Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, **And Christ will give you light.**"

He alone is the Author and finisher of our faith. We would be lost if it were not him who quickened us and gave us life. It is by His Life that we live He gives living water which springs up into **everlasting LIFE.**

Christ alone is the substance of our spiritual life.

What is life? What makes a man breathe. What makes Him alive. A doctor can't see life. He doesn't know where to find it. Only signs of life can be seen the heart pumping or the person breathing. But no one can point to it and say there it is. That is life. They cannot take a picture of it. They cannot hold it in their hands. The new spiritual life the Christian has received is the same there is much mystery. The Mystery is Christ Himself is in that heart, He is the very life that lives in the believers soul. If you could look into the centre of the brain of a believer, you would find Christ to be the number one thought. You would find Christ to be the substance of inner life. **Every believer is quickened** By the breath of Heaven Himself. *Ephesians 2:1 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins.* Without this bringing back to life, without this quickening our life is dead, there is an utter absence of everything holy, heavenly, spiritual, and divine – without Christ we are not **a partaker** and remain unchanged, remain in darkness and sin. We have no appetite for Godly things.

But when - Christ is the Substance of our lives. Natural man can keep physically alive by eating bread. **But the Spiritual man,** the believer the one made alive in Christ **cannot live by bread alone** "*man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word which proceeds out of the mouth of God shall man live.*" The bread is that which comes down from heaven, We eat this bread and we live forever. Nothing of this world can satisfy our thirst Only drinking from the eternal Rock Jesus Christ can satisfy.

Even if we have an abundance of goods , Even if our barns are full to overflow. They cannot satisfy. **Only He can satisfy my mouth with good things.** Only He can impart strength and renew my strength like the eagles.

How true are Gods words. For my flesh is meat indeed and my blood drink indeed. He that eats my flesh and drinks my blood dwells in me and I in him.

Christ is **the only** comfort and peace of your life when in storms and difficulties. Noah's ark had only one window. Just one. JESUS is the only window that lets light into the Christian Spirit, when we are struggling and battling with affliction.

Remember Paul on his disastrous voyage *Acts 27:20* *Now when neither sun nor stars appeared for many days, and no small tempest beat on us, all hope that we would be saved was finally given up. ...For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve, saying, 'Do not be afraid.*

When we see neither sun nor moon nor stars for many days Christ will appear and whisper, 'Fear not For I am with you I will never leave you nor forsake you.'

Christ is the very life I need. His Loving Kindness is better than life. There is nothing in life worth living for but Christ. *Psalms 73:25* *Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee.*

All other is chaff only Christ is the Golden grain that is worth having. For us to live is Christ. For us to live is the blessed Trinity Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We serve Him – the wicked flesh – the satanic trinity of the **WORLD - THE FLESH** and the **DEVIL**. Bring no Life. We can't seek these, it's pointless its vanity of vanities. Rather as the river seeks the sea so we seek Christ who is LIFE. **If we are not seeking Christ our Christianity is worthless.** Christ is that life. This is eternal Life that you may know Him.

Think of our privilege Christ is our LIFE. Even angles as great as they are have not been redeemed and given new life in Christ. They are servants and not made sons of God. They have not been bought with the redeeming blood of Jesus Christ. See how secure we are in Christs life; we are Hid in Him. His life raises us up. And His life never dies. Because He cannot die, we shall not die. Because he lives, we shall live. He is our life, as Christ was raised up from *the* dead by the glory of the Father; even so we also should walk in newness of life.

2. Now, as our Lord Jesus has not yet appeared in His Glory, **OUR LIFE IS THEREFORE HIDDEN.**

Romans 8:19 *For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.*

The people of the world have an unspiritual eye. To them the Gospel is foolishness. They understand not. They question God instead of believing Him.

They have no respect for God - Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God – The carnal mind is sold under sin; this worldly mind simply states these spiritual truths are just an illusion, a day dream. The carnal mind hates God and hates the things of God. **Therefore, we shouldn't be surprised**, we must not expect that unbelievers will look at us and admire us. That they would marvel and say look at the new life in them what a good treasure they have. We wish we could have the same. Yes, they can see your outward behaviour but your inward life is completely out of their view. Just as in the same way Christ's life is out of view to the worldly. – **Christ is in heaven right now** He is full of Joy and peace, but the world doesn't know His Joy and peace. Christ reigns heaven and earth and even hell. But the worldly man knows nothing of His reign. The Lord has fellowship with all His children everywhere, but the ungodly discerns nothing of this. **This spiritual life is hidden from the world** – and so it is with our Spiritual life. We may reign over sin But the sinner thinks nothing of it. We may worship and honour the Living God But it's nothing to the ungodly unimportant to them. Do not expect the ungodly to see and understand. **The only way we can introduce the ungodly to spiritual life is by the same door through which we entered.** Jesus said I am the door. We lift high the Living Lord Jesus.

But there is a part of our life that the world does see. Like Jesus when He was upon this earth He was seen of men and of angels. **But look at what the world did with Christ when they saw Him.** They did not bow down and worship His majesty. No, they were at enmity- they despised Him - He was rejected of men a man of sorrows acquainted with grief. The world did not honour Him or Respect Him or hear Him.

We His followers, must expect, and realise as soon as they see our spiritual life, they will treat us in the same way as they treated the Savior.

They will despise it. You expect them to value and treasure what you do. Worldlings to give you comfort, worldlings love the truth. *“Impossible!”* Do you think that people would be more kind to Christ, more willing to accept Christ in our world today any more than they were 2000 years ago? We must realise *Matthew 10:25 It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more will they call those of his household!*

Don't be surprised that you are unknown- the Jews didn't recognize their king.

3. That when Christ shall appear, we also shall appear.

At the animal orphanage at Mount Kenya they have some wild animals in cages. The Lion looks so unhappy; it paces restlessly up and down – sticks its head against the metal bars. Pawing at the ground under it. It is longing for freedom, longing for liberty. **Every true believer feels that.** We are in this limited world of sin and unbelief, mistrust and difficulties. Oh, we long to be free from the iron bars of this world.

Another example is a majestic eagle sitting in the open, on a tree, but it has a chain on its leg. It looks up to the blue sky and the golden sun, wanting to fly high above; but that chain; the cruel chain, holds it down. **Have we not sometimes felt like this.** Cruel persecutions and struggles here on earth seem chained to us. But that is not our final lot, it's not our true condition. **Christ will appear.** And when He does, we shall be like Him – Happiness Peace and Joy, and everything we are longing for shall finally come when He appears. For He shall certainly come. we shall certainly appear with Him in Glory. *Revelation 22:7 Behold, I come quickly. Blessed is he who keeps the Words of the prophecy of this Book. On that day His enemies, all his enemies, will be put to confusion. All dishonour will be wiped away from Christ. Every knee will bow, and acknowledge He is the King of King and Lord of Lords. So, it will be with us* weeping and tears will be wiped away. Glory and honour and power and Joy without end will be our Lot. **1 John 3:2** *Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.*

We live, because He lives, we are raised because He was raised. We are in covenant because he made the covenant. *Isaiah 42:6 "I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness, And will hold Your hand; I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, As a light to the Gentiles.* Christ was first given as a covenant to the people -as a light to the nations. He is the embodiment of the covenant — the sum and substance of it — the seal of it — the surety of it. He is, **indeed, the covenant itself.** And if you want light, you have only to get Christ.

But I must close with a sober thought. If we live without Christ's Life we shall die without Christ's life. There will be no resurrection to Eternal Glory. You will never rise like Christ. There is life in Christ, He said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." can you say with all conviction, Christ is my Life. - Light has come to my life. - For me to live is Christ. For me to die is gain.

Oh, Look to Christ today and live. **John 20:31** but these are written that you may **believe that Jesus is the Christ**, the Son of God, and that believing you may have **life in His name**.

those who receive **abundance of grace** and of the **gift of righteousness** will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ. Only Life in one source , Jesus Christ, Abundant grace grants the gift of righteousness, the white robes without spot or blemish. All filth and sin washed away. What Grace – what pardon-