James #33

We are identified with Christ in His death.

This series we are in, is a full overview of the Biblical theology of death. It is designed to enlighten and really drive home the point that CA Bels must grasp these concepts of death.

Physical and spiritual death have been our focus, with a view into what the second death is described as in scripture.

/Because you have believed upon the Lord Jesus Christ as your savior, you have instantly and permanently removed yourself from the second death. The free will choice you made, ignited the plan of GOD in your favor and you were brought out of a slave market of sin, which ends in a final judgment of spiritual death. You were supernaturally brought into the heavenly family of God, into a union with Christ therefore into eternal security. \

Now we all may either have a physical death which for us is a doorway into heaven. Or we may be taken up abruptly by our Bridegroom Jesus Christ at the rapture.

Those three categories of death - physical, spiritual and the second death, have to be key components to understanding all aspects of the doctrine of death.

Now in the letter from James there is always confusion about the term- dead works. It is related to what we may call operational death, which is a failure that many Christians embark upon after salvation.

In fact, I would argue this is another definition, or example of the difference between a winner Bel and a loser Bel.

/Jam 2:26 For just as the body without *the* spirit is dead, so **also faith without works is dead**.

Pastor James did not contradict the Apostle Paul, who insisted that we are not saved by any works. James merely clarifies for us the kind of faith that should become apparent in a Christian- walk.\

If real faith aligns with obedience and we know it does, then at some point the Fruit of the Spirit should bring forth something fruitful.

We are saved by grace through faith, not by works; but saving faith should have works that accompany it at some point. As one saying goes: *faith alone saves, but the faith that saves is not alone*; it has visible effects and eventually good works with it.

 REPEAT

I believe we will dive deeper into this aspect of death once we get deeper into the chapters of Jame’s epistle.

The fact is – part of our identification with Jesus Christ is also seen in HIS humanity, HIS personal walk during HIS earthly ministry.

That is why HE told us to pick our cross and walk with HIM.

The Apostle Paul also understood the necessity of divine works in proving the character of our faith.

ThisOperational death or dead works, is important —as we touch deeper into the study of James it becomes apparent.

This is a reference to the Believer’s failure to produce divine good, the failure of the Believer to reach levels of maturity. It is the failure of the Bel to get an accumulation of Bible doctrine in the soul, that leads to the solid construction of the ECS, which leads to occupation with Christ, driving us into a super-grace capacity, for blessings.

 REPEAT

This truly is another avenue that highlights there is no equality in heaven.

Yet the equality exists at the moment of salvation. We are all given the same equal privileges and equal opportunities at the moment of salvation.

/Titus 3:8 **This statement is trustworthy**; and concerning these things I want you to speak confidently, so that **those who have believed God will be careful to engage in good deeds**. These things are good and beneficial for people.\

When you have true faith in someone and they have a level of authority then you would naturally obey them.

The fact is we are called into service after salvation.

Many simply reject the calling.

/[Eph 2:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/2/10/s_1099010) For we are His workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus for good works**, which God prepared beforehand so that **we would walk in them**.

1Cor 3:13 **each one’s work will become evident;** for the day will show it because it is *to be* revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each one’s work. 14 If anyone’s work which he has built on it remains, **he will receive a reward**.\

This is telling us many Christians will have dead works and they actually walk in a manner of operational death in this temporal life.

Today we will note Positional Death, turn in your Bibles to Romans chapter six RF.

Positional death points us to the cross of Jesus Christ, we are immediately in union with HIM at salvation.

/Col 2:11 and **in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision performed without hands**, in the **removal of the body of the flesh** by the circumcision of Christ, 12 **having been buried with Him in baptism,** in which you were also raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.\

At salvation we are entered into union with Christ through the baptism of the Spirit. This has nothing to do with water.

/The baptism of the Spirit has two aspects. We are in union with Christ as Christ is seated at the right hand of the Father. We are also in union with Christ when HE died on the cross — current and retroactive positional truth. Positional death is retroactive positional truth, or identification with Christ in His death.\

We are identified with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection, never forget that. When Jesus Christ sat down at the right hand of God the Father in HIS session – we hold that seat with HIM!

We are Royality in the Church Age.

/At the cross of Jesus Christ all sins were dealt with and all human good was rejected. He bore our sins in His own body on that cross, Jesus Christ was struck with our judgement. He also rejected human good on the cross. Retroactive positional truth is simply our rejection of human good through identification with Christ on the cross.\

Divine truth – BD, the mind of Christ, can never align with human viewpoint and the power of the flesh.

This is why when we rely upon cosmic system ideology and human viewpoint we go rogue and things become increasingly difficult and confusing.

 REPEAT

In this section of the epistle to the Romans, we see the OSN take center stage and the Apostle Paul sets up a rhetorical question.

Rom 6:1 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase?

At the end of chapter five the Apostle Paul was clarifying that the LAW brought forth the evidence of our sin nature.

He highlights the fact that God’s grace abounds even more and sin is no longer the issue for those in Christ Jesus.

/[Rom 6:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/6/2/s_1052002) **Far from it!** How shall we who died to sin still live in it?

The OSN is the dead flesh and dead works that we no longer have to adhere to. Grace is not a license to sin, what it is, is an avenue to live godly in the temporal walk. \

God in HIS impeccable grace plan laid out a way we can walk unobstructed toward spiritual maturity.

HE did not have to do this and yet HIS grace is abundantly present in almost every thing we do.

/[Rom 6:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/6/3/s_1052003) Or do you not know that all of us who **have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death**?

*Have been baptized* (identified)- aorist, passive, indictive, the verb in the aorist tense tells us it is retroactive (past into future). The passive voice, WE receive the action of the verb – it is dogmatic statement of truth (indictive mood).\ (*baptizō*)

To be fully submerged, cleansed and entered into eternal bonds with TLJC.

God the HS does the work; we simply acknowledge the justice system of GOD.

That is what happens at salvation – you agree with God’s perfect justice and righteousness by clinging to the person and work of Jesus Christ. Because HE is the true LAMB of GOD who takes away the sins of the world. The only unique one who could satisfy the justice of God.

All Bels from every dispensation have a regeneration of a new birth at the moment of faith in Christ.

Yet the indwelling of the Trinity, a supernatural union with Christ in time and also retroactive positional truth, along with the sealing ministry and spiritual baptism is all related to the CA dispensation.

 REPEAT

In fact, the distribution of spiritual gifts and our royal title for the CA Bels is also very unique.

Becoming a bride of Christ points to our uniqueness in the Church Age as well.

 REPEAT

Our Believer priesthood also points to a vast difference between the Dispensation of Israel and the church.

/[Rom 6:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/6/4/s_1052004) **Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death**, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so **we too may walk in newness of life**.

This is our positional death, also very unique for the Church Age dispensation. We now have to take our free will and walk in the NEW NATURE.\

When the original man and woman in the garden ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil their perfection was lost. They had chosen to partake of a knowledge outside of God’s perfection, this knowledge of good and evil, worldly concepts and fleshly desires infected their very DNA.

Because GOD created the whole world HE also had the foreknowledge of everything the world could turn into.

That was the one tree that tested mankind’s free will.

That it is why, we must be born again and that happens at the baptism of the Spirit, nothing to do with water.

In our position we are no longer a slave to sin and spiritual death, human good and evil are rejected because of the spiritual death that TLJC endured for us.

[Rom 6:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/6/5/s_1052005) For if we have become united with *Him* in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be *in the likeness* of His resurrection,

IF – is written as a matter of fact, a first- class condition in the Greek text.

/Rom 6:5 – *if we have become untied* (*symphytos*), to be planted and grown together, to be untied or of the same origin. Having a deep, intimate and similar closeness. It also can mean a copy or to form into something almost exactly. We are now untied in the likeness of HIS death - our flesh has been nailed to the cross.\

SOM-FA-TOSS, there are over 100 words in Romans that would fall under the category of a Hapax Legomena in the original Greek, I believe this is one of them.

There are about 300 in the NT.

With much more of them in the OT.

An ancient word used only one time in a set of unified writings.

[/Rom 6:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/6/6/s_1052006) knowing this, that our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that **our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin;**

MIGHT BE done away with (free will) –

WE WOULD NO LONGER be slaves to sin, also hints to our own choice.\

In the eternal state this comes to fruition, yet in time, right now we need not be burden by the OSN.

[Rom 6:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/6/7/s_1052007) for the one who has died is freed from sin.

Your OSN can be dismissed from a position of authority in time.

You have the option of walking in your position in Christ – the new nature.

There will always be stumbling blocks for occasional sin, yet it does not have to be in authority.

Sinless perfection will happen in heaven.

[Rom 6:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/6/8/s_1052008) Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,

[/Rom 6:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/6/9/s_1052009) knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, **is never to die again;** death no longer is master over Him.

We share in HIS death, burial, resurrection, eternal life and Royality.\

We are so very unique just as every dispensation of Bels is unique in their own way.

If death is no longer the master over any of us, because even physical death is a doorway into heaven. Then we can proclaim what the Apostle Paul did concerning death;

/1Cor 15:54 But when this perishable puts on the imperishable, and **this mortal puts on immortality,** then will come about the saying that is written: “**DEATH HAS BEEN SWALLOWED UP** in victory. 55 “WHERE, O DEATH, IS YOUR VICTORY? WHERE, O DEATH, IS YOUR STING?”\ Hosea 13:14

[Rom 6:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/6/10/s_1052010) For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all *time;* but the life that He lives, He lives to God.

TLJC died once for sin, one time…anyone who claims they can sin and lose their salvation is blasphemous against the cross of Jesus Christ.

[Rom 6:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/6/11/s_1052011) So you too, consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

/Jesus Christ died for all the sins of the world, so that whoever believes upon HIM receives eternal life. The life we receive is brand new, it is not a refreshed temporal life, the OSN died upon the cross, you have a new nature. We are alive IN CHRIST, imputed with HIS very righteousness. This qualifies the new nature in you into entrance in heaven, removal from judgment and intimacy with GOD.\

Because we are in union with TLJC we are identified with so many blessings that our LORD represents and partakes of.

/1Pet 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to obtain an inheritance *which is* imperishable, undefiled, and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,\