

## LIVING A GRAFTED LIFE

***Rom 6:5 For if we have grown into union [grafted] with him by undergoing a death like his, of course we shall do so by being raised to life like him, [Goodspeed]***

The mystery of Christianity is the mystery of Christ in us. Genuine Christianity is not a person living for Christ, but living **FROM** Christ. Herein lies a vast difference which will determine what sort of life is lived, either one that is heavenly or one that is earthly and fleshly. In Romans, Paul lays out the truth that we have been joined to Christ in vital union. God placed Adam and all that is in Christ, including you and me, and crucified Christ, thus ending the old creation. This is why Jesus is called the **LAST ADAM**. [1 Cor. 15:45] He is not the second Adam, but is the **LAST ADAM** because all that Adam was and became ended in Christ. Now this fact took place in Christ and is a spiritual reality we can appropriate by faith. One day when Christ returns it will become a natural fact and the old creation will pass and the new will be made manifest. Christ has risen from the dead the head of a new race of existence called the **NEW CREATION**. This is why is also called the **SECOND MAN**. [1 Cor. 15:47] He is the head of a new race like Adam was.

When God placed Adam into Jesus Christ on the cross He grafted fallen humanity into His perfect spotless Son. When He did, it killed Him! Jesus took on our death and curse and was separated from God. That grafting produced death! However, there was another grafting that took place that every Christian must understand. Jesus did not stay dead, but was raised to new life once our sins were dealt with and we were justified. [Romans 4:25] Once someone places their faith in Christ as Savior and accepts the finished work of Christ on the cross for them personally, God does another grafting! He grafts the resurrected life of His Son Jesus Christ into them! This grafting produces life!

It is important to understand the process of grafting to understand what God did to us when we got saved and how we can benefit from it today. I am attaching a web site link that shows you how grafting works. Watch it now before you continue.  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qTtXmBVsolY>

Grafting is for the purpose of taking unfruitful and barren trees and causing them to be fruitful. You graft for the purpose of making a rotten tree bear good fruit. You do not take a good tree that is bearing good fruit and graft parts of a bad tree on it. There is no purpose in that because you already had a good tree to start with. There is no need to graft a good tree. You graft a bad tree because you need it to produce good fruit. To get a bad tree to produce good fruit, you must first make a cut into the bad tree and place a graft piece of a good tree into the place you made the cut. You then bind up that spot and seal it with a sealant so water can't get in. Over time the new graft will start to grow and above the graft line new good fruit will start to be produced! The bad tree will start producing the good fruit of the graft. The nature of the old tree still remains but it is now producing fruit from the new life that is grafted into it. It is a mystery how this takes place, but it does! My friend we need to understand that when we received Christ we were born again. The life of Christ was grafted into us. God made a cut with the sword of the Spirit and circumcised our spirit. [**Romans 2:29**] He made a cut and placed into it the very nature and life of His Son. [**1 John 3:9**] Then God sealed this operation with the seal of the Holy Spirit! [**Eph. 1:13**] Now in the natural we still live in our physical body which contains the fallen part of us from Adam, which is our flesh. In the flesh remains the old life that is filled with all manner of evil and sin. We were a very bad tree! We still have the flesh so we still are a bad tree in the natural in that respect. However, God grafted into us the life of His own Son. Because He has we can now start bearing the fruit of Christ instead of the bad outworkings of the flesh. [**Gal. 5:19-23**] Now a tree does not have a will. However, God created us with a will.

We can decide to live from our old stock, the flesh, or we can draw from the new graft of Christ and live and bear fruit from Him. We can live a grafted life!

How do we live a grafted life? To live a grafted life we simply stop trying to produce good fruit ourselves and turn that job over the graft within us which is Christ.

**Jas 1:21** Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted [engrafted] Word, which is able to save your souls.

Christ is the Word of God. [John 1:1] God grafted His Son into us when we got saved. Now we have a choice to try to live the Christian life out of our own ability, self will, and effort or we can trust Christ to overcome for us, in us, and through us. If we choose to try to live FOR God we are living in pride. To allow Christ to live in us and through us we must humble ourselves and in meekness receive the engrafted life of Jesus that has been placed within us. Christ will produce the life and fruit-bearing we seek, if we place the job into His hands. **Since we are joined to Him whatever He does in us He also does to us and through us.** We are in union with Him. It is not possible that He does something in us and it not be made manifest through us. We are part of Him! We have a part to play in this. We are to yield to Him and to follow His inner directions He gives us by the Spirit. If we try to live independently of God we will manifest nothing but poisonous fruit of the flesh. How do we practically live out the grafted life? When we are tempted by anger, lust, jealousy, addiction, or any other sort of evil then it is our old tree trying to produce them. We have no power over changing or correcting the nature of the old tree. No amount of will power, positive

thinking, or behavior modification can change the nature of the old tree. Only by drawing upon the graft of a new righteous tree can we experience freedom. When temptation arises from the flesh the natural tendency is to try to resist it and overcome it. We cannot my friend. The flesh cannot get rid of the flesh. Self-effort can't free us. Only Christ, our Savior, can save us at this point. We merely need to turn to Christ and say, "Lord you were grafted into me, so you are present to me to draw from you to overcome. Lord I am tempted to sin [name the sin], I turn that over to you to overcome for me, and to manifest your life and nature in me. Thank you for overcoming for me right now and giving me victory over it. Thank you Jesus!"

Many turn to Jesus to ask Him to help **THEM** overcome. What they mean is that they want Jesus to give them the extra boost to overcome sin because their will power is insufficient. They want it to be a joint effort! **Jesus is not into joint ventures when it comes to saving your from sin.** When you got saved you did not provide some effort and He did the rest. No, you had to let Him do all the saving **FOR** you. Paul plainly tells us in Colossians 2:6 **that as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk you in Him.** To walk in victory you have to let Him do **ALL** of the saving. You cannot try to overcome and also trust Him to help you overcome. To experience victory you must put the **WHOLE** matter of overcoming **FOR** you on Him in simple faith believing He is doing it for you. Until you see this you will experience defeat. Many can't get past the fact that they must give the whole matter over to God to deliver them. They are repulsed at the idea that they can't even try a bit to do it. It seems so wrong that they must simply trust the Lord to do it **FOR** them. This idea is most repulsive to the flesh. This is also repulsive to the carnal, religious, and proud mind. Thoughts come,

“This cannot be true!” It is true my friend. We must renew our mind that this is God’s plan of salvation. Many are in hell right now because they were repulsed by how simple salvation was! They thought, “Surely I must do something to earn it!” Some even realized they needed the Lord’s help, but they also wanted to contribute their good works and the best they could do and hoped God makes up the difference. This theology will not save anyone. Likewise this theology will not produce freedom in a Christian from the power of sin!

We must turn our sinful flesh and weakness to Christ and trust Him to completely overcome **FOR** us. If we do this in faith believing He is doing it, then we will experience victory and will begin to bear the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control! Are you ready to live the grafted life! Jesus is a ever present help those in need!