

THE FORTY - SECOND GENERATION

Those Who Are Dead In Christ

January 2016

Paul asked the Romans:

"God forbid, how shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death? Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of His death, we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection: Knowing this that our old man is crucified with Him; that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin. Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him." Romans 6:2-8

We all were dead in our sin. When we were baptized, we became dead to sin, Romans 6:2; and the body of sin (the old, Adam nature) was crucified; that we should no longer serve (be a slave to) sin,

Romans 6:6. This is a daily act of taking up our cross and dying on it. When we have overcome the sin nature, and sin and death have no more dominion in our lives, then something happens in our lives. Paul explained to the Colossians,

"Buried with Him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with Him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised Him from the dead. And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath He quickened together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses." Colossians 2:12-13

We have been quickened (made alive) together with Him. As Jesus was raised from the dead, we, too, are resurrected unto life from our condition of being dead in sin. Paul boldly proclaimed to the Colossians:

"If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with

Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in glory." Colossians 3:1-4

Paul was speaking of those who are dead to the things of this world, but alive in Christ. They are dead, while they live. They are risen with Christ. They are setting their affections on the things above, no longer seeking the things of this world. Paul revealed who the "dead in Christ" were when he proclaimed,

*"For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God."
Colossians 3:3*

When Christ appears, we will appear with Him in glory, Colossians 3:4. Why? Because we will be raised from the dead. We will be dead in Christ, not having our affections on the things of this life.

Paul stated, those who are "dead in Christ" shall rise first. The "dead in Christ" are those who have put off the old man and are seated in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. This is the Firstfruit Company in God. Until the Firstfruit Company raises up and becomes known to the world, the trump of God will not be blown.

The Firstfruit Company are those who have allowed the Kingdom to come within. These have prayed that they are accounted worthy to escape those things which are coming upon the world, Luke 21:36.

These are those who will rule and reign 1000 years with Christ in this earth, Revelation 20:5.

These are the first resurrection, upon whom the second death has no power, Revelation 20:6.

These are those who will be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, I Corinthians 15:52, without going through the veil of death as those who are asleep in Jesus and those who are alive and remain.

These will fulfill the Scripture: *"...This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled," Matthew 24:34.* Then the seventh trumpet will sound and the mystery of God will be fulfilled.

Paul was not writing to the Thessalonians about a rapture, but a changed people; not in some far-off place, but here and now, in this house. These have cast off the old; and have become that new creation in God. These are dead in Christ, and this life no longer has a hold on them. These are freed from the things of this world.

In Paul's second letter to the Thessalonians, he wrote to those who had a misunderstanding of his first letter,

*"Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto Him." II
Thessalonians 2:1*

Paul was writing to them of the same event that he had addressed in I Thessalonians 4, when he spoke of the coming of the Lord and the gathering of His saints unto Him. The word "beseech" here means "*to beg.*"

Paul said, "We beg you brethren, to take heed to what we are saying."

"That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand." II Thessalonians 2:2

Please notice that the gathering of His saints and the coming of the Lord is one event. We must assume that, after Paul wrote his first letter, many of the Thessalonians had fallen into the same error that the church has fallen into today, so Paul wanted them to look for two events.

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition." II Thessalonians 2:3

Paul warned the people, "Do not be deceived." Then he reveals the two events to look for before we look for Jesus' return and our gathering together unto Him.

1 - A great falling away

Those who are not ready, those who are not strong in the Word, and those who have believed in man's false teachings will fall away. This happened in China. When persecution came, thousands who were taught the rapture, fell away because they had been taught that, before persecution would come, they would be taken off the earth. When persecution came and they were suffering and they were still there,

they felt since there was no rapture, then there was no God.

2 - The man of sin will be revealed, the son of perdition

If the person who is teaching the rapture cannot tell you who this man of sin is, then hear the words of Paul. He begs us to stop looking for that day, and especially a rapture. It says that before that day comes, we are going to know the man of sin.

If all the Scripture proof has not convinced you there is no rapture, then hear Jesus' prayer that He prayed for all His saints,

"I pray not that Thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that Thou shouldest keep them from the evil." John 17:15

If Jesus had planned a secret rapture, He would not have prayed that His saints be kept from the evil. It is God's plan that we all become "dead in Christ", so that we might escape those things that are coming upon the earth. God is coming back for an overcoming people. He is not returning for a church whose only hope is that God will whisk them away in their weak, unpurified, unsanctified condition. Jesus is returning to be glorified in His saints, II Thessalonians 1:10. He is returning to present to Himself a church without spot or wrinkle, Ephesians 5:27.

Peter spoke of these "damnable heresies" which have been brought in privately, II Peter 2:1. Peter said these "damnable heresies" would bring swift destruction upon those who harkened unto them.

We are to "Look up! For our redemption draweth nigh," Luke 21:28.

The rapture is not part of God's redemption plan. We need to change our minds; and only seek those things which are above, (the Spiritual realm). Do not be let down because you are not going to be taken up. Begin to glory in your hope! It is Christ in us, our hope of glory, Colossians 1:27, not a false hope in the rapture.

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As in no other time in history the body of Christ needs to come together to spread the Everlasting Gospel of the Kingdom.

Today is the day to proclaim the Everlasting Gospel of the Kingdom! We would ask you to diligently go before the Lord in prayer as to how you can become part of the Harvest of the Everlasting Gospel of the Kingdom.

The following is a selection of our study booklets for those who are desiring to become part of the Forty-Second Generation.

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The Glory of Ezekiel's Temple
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