DYING WITH AND LIVING FOR JESUS

Galatians 2:20

Dr. Glenn A. Jent, Pastor

# INTRODUCTION

As Children of God, we have been crucified with Christ. Every day, our lives should reflect that we have died with Jesus. That means that we are dead—dead to the things of this world. It means that we have crucified, or killed, any self-serving attitudes, actions, and ambitions on the Cross of Jesus Christ. That is why our text says, “I no longer live.”

 However, being Children of God, being Christian, does not merely mean denial of flesh and the world. Other world religions go that far. It is more than emphasis upon the negatives. Christianity emphasizes the positive. Do not just kill the fleshly nature; rather, come alive in Jesus Christ and nurture the spiritual nature. The text does not end with the words, “I no longer live.” Instead, it continues with these words: “But Christ lives in me.” Furthermore, it says, “The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God.”

 Let us consider what it means to die with and live for Jesus.

# WHAT IT MEANS TO DIE WITH JESUS

1. Christ’s death was a horribly painful price that He **willingly** paid for our sins.
2. We must never forget the awful nature of crucifixion.
3. We must always remember that He paid this price for us.
4. Christ’s death is both the greatest **tragedy** and the greatest **hope** for all mankind.
5. We must never forget the great tragedy that we killed Jesus Christ.
6. We must always remember that His death provides us hope for forgiveness.
7. Christ’s death reveals the depths of God’s **love** for you and me.
8. Because of His great love, we should want to love Him in return.
9. Because of His great love, we should want to show our gratitude every day.
10. Christ’s death clearly reveals God’s **attitude** toward sin, which is hatred.
11. We must hate all that is within us that caused Him to suffer and die.
12. We must crucify all of our sinful nature—i.e., kill our sinful selves.

*Because Christ’s death has personal meaning and implications for us, we should be involved in denying our selfish interests every day. We should be dead to sin and alive to Christ.*

1. **WHAT IT MEANS TO LIVE FOR JESUS**
2. It means that we have been **born** **again**.
3. Our first birth was physical—carnal nature.
4. Our second birth was spiritual—spiritual nature.
5. It means that we **allow** Jesus Christ to live His life through us.
6. By choice, we allow Jesus Christ to live in us.
7. By choice, we allow Jesus Christ to live through us.
8. It means that we **understand** the ultimate meaning of life.
9. Life was created by God and every living thing belongs to God—including us.
10. Created beings fulfil their purpose only when they live as God intends.
11. It means that we **give** Jesus Christ first place in our lives.
12. By choice, we put Jesus Christ ahead of every**thing**else in our lives.
13. By choice, we put Jesus Christ ahead of every**one** else in our lives.

*Living for Jesus Christ is based upon an understanding of what life is all about and involves our giving of ourselves completely to God.*

**CONCLUSION**

God is not interested in anyone simply practicing self-denial. He demands more than that if we are to become His children. God demands that we be born again, that we die to self, & that we live unto Christ—by allowing Jesus Christ to live His life in and through us. Are you willing to do that?

*“Jesus, be the Lord of all;*

*Jesus, be the Lord of all;*

*Jesus, be the Lord of all,*

*The Lord of all my life.”*