

2. Union with Christ & Justification

Reading: Colossians 2:9-15

Introduction

To discuss:

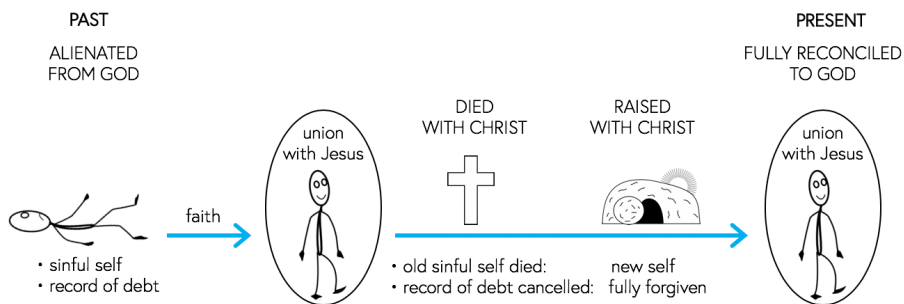
- Do you ever worry whether you're really forgiven? When? Why?

Worried Wilma

(1) In Christ, Jesus' story is our story...

- Col 2:11-13, Col 2:20, Rom 6:6

- co-crucified
- co-buried
- co-raised
- co-made alive



(2) ...which guarantees that we are fully forgiven

- before being united with Jesus:
Col 2:13, 1:21, 3:6

sinful self
record of debt

→ dead / alienated from God

- sharing in Jesus' story:
Col 2:13-15

sinful self died
record of debt cancelled

→ fully forgiven

To discuss:

- Any questions or comments? What has encouraged you? What has challenged you?
- Can you summarise Paul's argument in your own words? How is this different from how you normally think about the cross?
- How does your union with Christ assure you that the cross really counts for you?
- How will this help you pastor a friend / your own heart when
 - you are worried about your standing with God?
 - struggle with a particular big or a recurring sin?
 - when you don't feel close to God?
- What do you want to say sorry / thank you / ask for? Spend some time responding in prayer.