

3. Union with Christ & Sanctification

Reading: Colossians 2:20-3:10

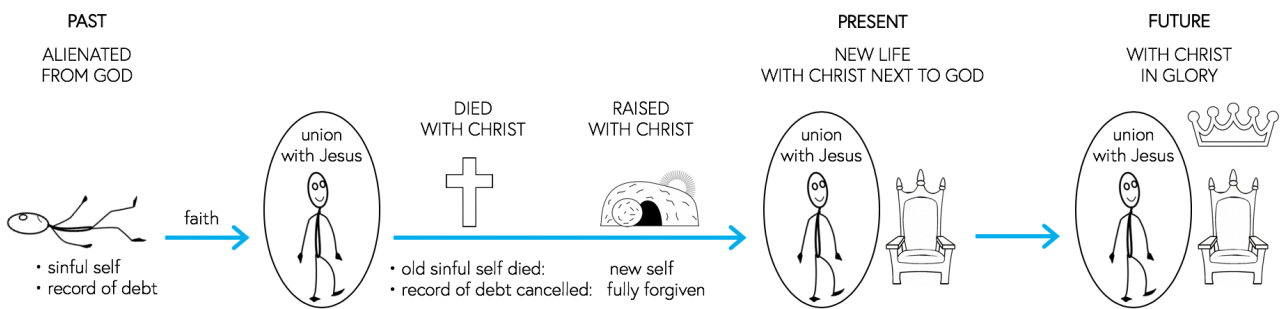
Introduction

To discuss:

- Is real change possible? Can people change? If so, how / how not?

- Frustrated Frieda

(1) In Christ you have already become a new person...



- rules and regulations don't bring about change (Col 2:20-23)

- in Christ you have died to your old sinful self... (Col 2:11-12)

- ...and have been raised to a new glorious life (Col 3:1-4)

(2) ...so be who you are

- live out your new identity in Christ
Col 3:1-8

- you can say NO to sin...
Col 2:11, Rom 6:5-7

- optimistic realism

- ...but you need to keep actively remembering who you are
Col 3:1-2

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 following rules, trying to live a moral life, or acting out of gratitude?
- How does knowing you've put off your old self and now have a new identity in Christ change how you think about your battle with sin?
- Can you think of examples that show how being aware of your new identity leads to godly living?
- Why/when do we find remembering our new identity hard?
- How can we be better at setting our minds on things above to help us remember our new identity?
- What do you want to say sorry / thank you / ask for? Spend some time responding in prayer.