

fact of our standing before God. If we have believed in Christ, if we have been born again through His precious blood, it is not merely a fact of history that Jesus was crucified. It is a fact of experience, a fact of theology that I ~~am~~ am crucified with Christ, and if the devil comes to tempt you, to think that you are lost, to think that you are not living as ybu should, and can not get God's approval, the answer to it isn't, Just struggle a little hard to live a better life. No! The answer is, point him to what Jesus did dying on the cross. I am crucified with Him, and no one can bring an accusation against me before God, because Jesus died ~~for~~ for my sins.

But now this is a paradoxical verse. It begins with this great outstanding precious truth. There is no greater truth. I am crucified with Christ, and yet it goes on to contradict it. I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live. If I am crucified with Christ, am I not a dead man lying here. How can I get excited about what happens? How can I be~~y~~ tempted with sin? How can I be attracted by a thing that is contrary to God's will. I am crucified with Christ, and yet the verse goes on, "nevertheless I live..." I am crucified with Christ, that is my state. My state is justification. I am crucified with Christ. God sees me as crucified with Him. And nevertheless I live, and that "I" that lives, is not a completely new person. It is a creature that has been renewed and has been changed, and born again, but it is the same person, and the lusts, and the affections that are evil, the desires the are evil, the evil tendencies, the selfishness, the wickedness~~/~~ that was there before I was saved, ~~much~~ much of that has been removed and changed, but there is plenty of it left, and don't you ever forget it. A man said to me once, or a man and his wife, they said, Oh my, what that fellow did last week, how disappointed we were. He was our idol, and now we find our idol has feet of clay. I felt like saying, It serves you right ~~for~~ for having an idol to find he has feet of clay. Don't make any human being your idol. The human being that you look up to, that you think so highly of, he may be a true Christian. If he is~~n~~'t, you shouldn't look up to him. A true Christian, crucified with Christ, God sees ~~in~~ him in the person of Christ, and yet he still lives, and his evil nature is still there, and it will not be eradicated as long as he is upon this earth. I am crucified with Christ. I am dead. God sees me as