

In Christ

On Father's Day I was meditating on one of my favourite Bible verses:

“For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power” (Colossians 2:8, 9).

What a powerful testimony to the glory of Jesus Christ, our Saviour! In Christ dwells all the fullness of the Godhead! Jesus is Deity; Jesus is truly God. But that is not all. The fullness of Deity dwells “bodily”. Just as we confess, Jesus is “one substance with the Father” and yet, “for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man.”

Jesus is Divine and Human; God and Man. In himself he bridges the infinite distance between heaven and earth; he brings together the Creator and his creatures; in himself he reconciles the Holy God with sinful man.

It was necessary that our Saviour should be human, made of flesh and blood like us. He needed a physical human body so that he could have his hands and feet nailed to the cross; he needed human blood so that he could shed it to purchase our freedom.

It was also necessary that our Saviour should be Divine for God himself declared, “I, even I, am the LORD, and besides Me there is no savior” (Isaiah 43:11). Who but an infinite and all-powerful God could rescue us from sin, death and hell?

In Christ dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily! Therefore, the Scripture concludes: “You are complete in him.” In Christ we are whole; we lack nothing! We have forgiveness, joy, peace, God's love overflowing!

But not all people enjoy God's blessings. Many go on their busy life burdened with sin, laughing but not joyful, thirsty but not satisfied! Why? Why are there so many people, perhaps some of the readers of this letter, incomplete and broken?

I received an SMS early that morning which read: HAPPY FATHER'S DAY! That was the first time somebody said that to me ... Yes, Joanne and I are expecting a baby in December – one year after our marriage. Our little JJ (that's “Jo Junior”) is only 3 inches long and weighs just 25 grams. Not much! Still, he is there, hidden, but real and alive. In fact is already practicing breathing movements. And he (or she!) made me a Daddy!

The baby is alive because he is connected to his mother by the umbilical cord. His life is totally dependent on his mother. The cord supplies him with oxygen and nutrients, and cleans all the toxic material that accumulates in his tiny body. He cannot survive without that vital union.

On a spiritual level, that is what makes all the difference between life and death, forgiveness and damnation. Separate from Christ, we are dead and damned. Only “in him” are we complete. In him! -- that's how intimate is the union between Christ and his people. Christians are in him, connected with the umbilical cord of faith, and from him we derive life, spiritual nutrition and cleansing.

Ponder this sober question: *Am I living by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me? Am I in Christ?*