

Seated With Christ

Written by Mark Hankins

He gave us life together with Christ. And hath raised us up together and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

(Eph. 2:5-6 Phillips)

A few years ago, Watchman Nee wrote a little book called, *Sit, Walk, and Stand*. It is a very simple progression here: sit, walk, and stand. People want to stand against the devil as in Ephesians 6, or they want to learn how to walk the Christian walk in Ephesians 4, but they have never learned how to sit from Ephesians 2.

Before you can stand against the wiles of the devil, and before you can walk the Christian walk, you must learn how to sit. You must take your place in the finished work of Christ. By "finished," I mean Jesus has already done everything He is going to do about the devil, your righteousness, and your victory in life. He has already (past tense) done it, or taken care of it.

He has defeated the devil, spoiled him, established your righteousness, given you victory, sat down, and said, "It is all over. I am seated far above everything, and I did it for you." That is why the Gospel is not "God can," or "God wants to." No, God has already taken care of the devil, your righteousness, and your victory in life. You do not have to do it. All you have to do is sit down!

The Finished Work Of Redemption

Take your place first of all in Christ, in the finished work of redemption, and sit down. You give the devil the most trouble when you sit down! Often people are fighting themselves and many other things. If you are fighting everything in the natural, you are going to lose. "not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit..." Zechariah 4:6. So take your place in the Spirit in Christ and sit down.

God has already taken care of the devil, your righteousness, and your victory in life.

Satan is far below, and you are far above him. Christ is the head, and you are in His body. You have the same account, the same righteousness, the same life, the same victory, and the same authority Christ has. Just sit down and say, "Ha, ha, ha, devil, you cannot do this to me. I am seated with Christ." You had better get your binoculars out to see him because he is so far below you. He is far below your feet even if you are the little toe in the body of Christ. Take your place first of all in Christ, in the finished work of redemption, and sit down. You give the devil the most trouble when you sit down.

And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

(Eph. 2:6)

God is not going to do it. You do not have to talk Him into doing it because He has already done it. He hath raised us up together. You can deal with life from a different perspective now. You can deal with your problems from a position of triumph and victory, not from a place of trying to get the victory. You can say, "I am taking my place. I am going to sit down right now, and I am going to rest in what Jesus has already done. I do not need to fight in this battle. God fights in the battle and gives me the victory."

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We, ourselves, now exercise an authority like that which Christ has in the presence of God.
(Eph. 2:6 Johnson)

God raised us from death with Christ, and gave us a place to sit with Him in heaven.
(Cressman)

Together with Christ Jesus and in Him, He raised us up with Him to rule with Him in the heavenly world.

(Kleist and Lily)

Being seated at the right hand of God is a picture of your authority as a believer. You are not helpless, hopeless, or trying to make something work. No, you already have an established authority seated with Christ at the right hand of God. He raised us up and made us sit down together with Him in the heavenly world.

A Place Of Authority

We live so much in the natural that our whole life is spent taking care of natural things with our reasoning. When you get in the Spirit, you learn to take your place by faith and the Spirit. You can sit down and say, "Devil, you have no power over me! You have no dominion over me! I have been delivered from the power of darkness. I have been translated into the kingdom of the Son of God. I am seated with Christ and now I have authority."

Being seated at the right hand of God is a picture of your authority as a believer. Do not pray from down here by saying, "O, Lord, I am down here on earth. I am having such a hard time, and the devil is everywhere down here." Instead, pray from your place in Christ where triumph is already yours.

By faith, climb up in the Spirit to who you are in Christ, take the Word of God, and say, "O Father God, it is so good to be seated at your right hand, to call you Daddy, and to be an heir of God and a joint-heir with Jesus Christ. Oh, Father, it is so good to fellowship with You and enjoy the benefits of heaven. I do not have to wait until I get to Heaven to be blessed. I am already seated in heavenly places. I have the same life, the same joy, the same peace, the same victory, and the same blessing."

The Cornish translation reads this way: "God raised us out of it all with Christ, and sat us down on the right hand of power with Him and gave us dominion" (Eph. 2:6). He gave us dominion. Jesus got back the dominion that Adam lost, and you are in Him.

The Carpenter's paraphrase of Ephesians 2:6 reads like this: "We found ourselves not only risen from death but in Christ who is in Heaven, and therefore in the Heavenly realm ourselves." That is my favorite one. We found ourselves not only risen from death, but in Christ who is in Heaven. Therefore, we are in the heavenly realm ourselves.

Summary Points:

- God has already taken care of the devil, your righteousness, and your victory in life.
- Take your place first of all in Christ, in the finished work of redemption, and sit down. You

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give the devil the most trouble when you sit down.

- Being seated at the right hand of God is a picture of your authority as a believer.

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