



water from rock

Selah: Stop, Look, Listen – May 12, 2022

The Lord be with you.

How does the thought of hidden treasure strike you? The thought that there was something hidden that is of great value for you?

The hidden treasure of who you are in Christ is what I want to explore for the next few moments.

The wondrous treasure of following Jesus that is hidden from the world. The hidden treasure of who you are, your true, real self, it's found in the Apostle Paul's letter to the Colossians. Colossians chapter 3 verses 1-4, I read. So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above and not on things that are on earth, for you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life is revealed and you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

Now, it is this remarkable phrase, your life is hidden with Christ, that I wanna see if we can unlock today. Your life is hidden with Christ. Now, that is the usual New Testament way of looking at the Christian life. The glory of the Christian life. It is hidden with Christ.

Now, what is the word hidden conjure up for you? What does the word hidden mean?

Well, the word hidden can mean concealed out of sight. Not readily apparent. Take that and apply that to Paul's phrase your life is hidden with Christ. Notice for instance the Apostle Paul says here that we have died with Christ. Now, that's not readily apparent to us. Is it in it's hidden to us that we've died with Christ, that really our old selves have been crucified with Christ, that God sees you and me as one with Christ in his death. One, with Christ in his resurrection to life. That's not readily apparent. It is hidden. We don't see that, we don't feel that in our every day living, we do not grasp the full reality of that, it is hidden with Christ, but it's not hidden to God who we really are with Christ. The hidden-ness of this means, but it means that God does not look at you, he does not look at me the way we look at ourselves. God does not look at us except as We are hidden with Christ in his life, in his resurrection, in his Ascension to glory. God does not look at our sins, God does not look at our guilt, you can't see it, our lives are hidden with Christ...

That is our true selves are real selves, united with Christ, how God sees us, for the here and now, it's hidden to us. That I cannot see you yet as God sees you holy and perfect, I can't see that. It's hidden. Nor, can you see me as God sees me? Holy and perfect to him. You can't see that. That we are in



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Christ, it is hidden for now. That God does not see us except as our lives are hidden with united with Christ. In the here now today, we cannot grasp this, it is hidden to us, that God does not see our sins, that God does not see our rebellion, that God does not see our guilt as it is hidden with Christ, as we are fully united with Christ, we are one with him, we in Christ in Christ in us. We cannot yet see the full glory of who we really are with Christ.

The glory of who we are with Christ is hidden for now, but in the next verse Colossians Chapter 3 verse 4, Paul talks about a day that is coming, he says, When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory, because Christ is your life because you are united with Christ by faith, because you are in him and he is in you when the hidden glory of Christ is revealed. And that which is hidden now will be revealed with him in glory. But for now, I say, it's hidden with Christ. We cannot yet see ourselves as God sees us as new creations in Christ, for the old has passed away and everything is new. That's hidden.

So here is the hidden treasure. The hidden treasure of your life, my life with Christ. I am helped by the message as translation of these verses about our lives hidden with Christ, as it says, your old life is dead, your new life, which is your real life, even though invisible to spectators is with Christ in God, He is your life, that is still hidden to us to a degree, when Christ, your real life, remember, when Christ shows up again on this earth, you'll show up to the real you, the glorious you.

So the world does not see you as that, it may not even be how you see yourself, but that is how God sees you hidden with Christ. So here is true hidden treasure, the treasure of your real self, the treasure of who you are hidden with Christ, the you that God knows that you hidden with Christ.

Now we see through a glass darkly, but then face-to-face.

I am Tim Smith, a fellow traveler. Thank you for listening. Until next time.