

# ***CHRIST IN YOU, THE HOPE OF GLORY***



It is futile to ask,

“Is she a Christian?”

“Is he a follower of Jesus?”

“Are those people in the kingdom?”

God alone knows those who belong to him.

Who else can see into the human heart?

Rather than trying to weigh the validity of our brother's faith, our sister's commitment, what we need to do is lay our hearts open before God and ask,

“Lord, am I actually in the kingdom?”

“Am I truly following you?”

Then we need to hold still and wait for the Lord to turn on the light.

He will.

When the Lord Jesus turns on the light we suddenly behold who we are in his sight.

It is possible that all our “scriptural knowledge” has failed us.

It could be that our “Christian Crusades” put a frown on the Master's face.

The Lord Jesus may even place his finger on attitudes and hostilities that betray our faith.

The Spirit might reveal that our love for others is more pretense than passion.

The Lord Jesus will give us all the truth we can handle,  
if we seek the truth about our connection with him.

And if it should be that we find ourselves outside the kingdom looking in,

If it should be that we are weighed in the balance and found wanting,  
here's the good news:

To be a Christian,

To be a follower of Jesus,

is simply to have Jesus living and ruling inside us.

***I am crucified with Christ, it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.  
And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me  
and gave himself for me.***

***Galatians 2***

If I am crucified with Christ, I am dead to myself and alive to God.

If it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me, then he calls the shots, not me.

**I am totally at his disposal.**



**Jesus is my Way, my Truth, my Life.**

Nothing else.

No one else.

It is simply **“Christ in me, the hope of glory.”**

**To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.**

### **Colossians 1**

When the Lord Jesus actually rules us from within, he takes us on a path quite different from the path of Christendom.

We begin to see the forgotten ones of this world with his eyes.

We hear the cries of the broken hearts around us.

Our harsh attitude toward those who are “different” is burned away from us by the glory of the Lord.

### **Christ in you, the hope of glory.**

Those who follow Jesus are indwelt by Jesus.

Their hearts are ruled by Jesus.

Their tongues are guided by Jesus.

Their eyes are opened by Jesus.

They follow wherever he leads.

They no longer fear the darkness, because Christ, the hope of glory, lives in them.

They are one with the Lord,  
and with all who follow the Lord.

***“The glory which thou hast given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and thou in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that thou hast sent me and hast loved them even as thou hast loved me.” (John 17)***



*Prayer: Gracious Lord, what a precious, priceless gift to have your holiness dwelling within us. Thank you, thank you. Lord for our sakes and the sake of your Kingdom, expose anything within us that separates from this gift. May we readily let go and instead embrace your life within us. May you be our way, our truth, our life, our hope. By your indwelling power, make us perfectly one with you. By your indwelling power help us to live the love and mercy of the Father himself. By your indwelling power help us to open all we have to the full measure of your love ... where we will find glory upon glory.*

*Maranatha Mirror*