

# ROOTS

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## *Taking a Look at the Underbelly of What Sources Our Faith*

### *EXPRESSING CHRIST THROUGH OUR LIFE*

#### I. **ACTS 17:28 "FOR IN HIM WE LIVE AND MOVE AND HAVE OUR BEING..."** (NIV)

- A. The \_\_\_\_\_ Starts a Dramatic Change to Life as We Knew It
1. We become **the very expression of His life** to the world around us.
  2. That "expression" is no small matter, since He fully entrusts us with the responsibility to demonstrate His goodness and attributes in a dark world.
- B. **2 Corinthians 3:1-3** "<sup>1</sup> Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, like some people, letters of recommendation to you or from you? <sup>2</sup> **You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by everybody.** <sup>3</sup> **You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.**" (NIV)
- C. What is "**That**" which Actually Sources the Living Faith that Gets Demonstrated through Our Daily Life? That Allows Us to Actually Express Christ through Our Life?

#### II. **AS YOU HAVE RECEIVED CHRIST – WALK IN HIM!**

- A. **Colossians 2:6-7** "<sup>6</sup> So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, <sup>7</sup> rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness." (NIV)
1. How did we receive Christ?
- B. **Acts 4:10-12** "<sup>10</sup> Let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead-- by this {name} this man stands here before you in good health. <sup>11</sup> "He is the stone which was rejected by you, the builders, {but} **which became the very corner {stone.}** <sup>12</sup> **"And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved."**

1. The “**construction**” of a new life begins in a person’s heart the moment “\_\_\_\_\_” of that cornerstone takes place. In fact, Jesus stated that unless that took place – seeing the Kingdom of God would be impossible.
  - a. **John 3:3-8** <sup>3</sup> *In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."* <sup>4</sup> *"How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!"* <sup>5</sup> *Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> *Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.* <sup>7</sup> *You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' <sup>8</sup> The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."* (NIV)*

### III. THAT PROCESS IS OUTLINED IN THREE KEY WORDS EVERY CHRIST-FOLLOWER SHOULD KNOW

- A. **Regeneration** – A \_\_\_\_\_ **takes Place!**
  1. **2 Corinthians 5:17** “*Therefore if any man is in Christ, {he is} a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.*” (NAS)
  2. Our nature undergoes a transformation through spiritual rebirth (born-again).
- B. **Justification** – A \_\_\_\_\_ **takes Place!**
  1. Justification is the process through which we now become acceptable to God! It is God’s judicial way of declaring us righteous on account of Christ’s sacrifice.
  2. **Romans 3:21-28** “<sup>21</sup> *But now **a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify.** <sup>22</sup> **This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.** There is no difference, <sup>23</sup> *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> **and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.** <sup>25</sup> *God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished—<sup>26</sup> he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just **and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.**”***

3. **(Cont.)** *“<sup>27</sup> Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of observing the law? No, but on that of faith. <sup>28</sup> For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law.”* (NIV)
4. **Titus 3:5-8** *“<sup>5</sup> He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, **but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,** <sup>6</sup> whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup> that being justified by His grace we might be made heirs according to {the} hope of eternal life. <sup>8</sup> This is a trustworthy statement; and concerning these things I want you to speak confidently, so that those who have believed God may be careful to engage in good deeds. These things are good and profitable for men.”* (NAS)

C. **Sanctification** – A \_\_\_\_\_ **takes Place!**

1. The climax of this three-fold experience is the entrance of God’s Holy Spirit in our life!
2. **John 14:16-17** *“<sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; <sup>17</sup> {that is} the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, {but} **you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you.**”* (NAS)
3. **1Thessalonians 4:2-8** *“<sup>2</sup> For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus. <sup>3</sup> **It is God's will that you should be sanctified:** that you should avoid sexual immorality; <sup>4</sup> that each of **you should learn** to control his own body in a way **that is holy and honorable,** <sup>5</sup> not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God; <sup>6</sup> and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. <sup>7</sup> **For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.** <sup>8</sup> Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit.”* (NIV)
4. **Colossians 2:6-7** *“My counsel for you is simple and straightforward: Just go ahead with what you've been given. You received Christ Jesus, the Master; now live him. You're deeply rooted in him. You're well constructed upon him. You know your way around the faith. Now do what you've been taught. School's out; quit studying the subject and start living it! And let your living spill over into thanksgiving.”* (Message)