**Triumph through the Cross**

*Colossians 2:13-15*

Our Victorious King has Triumphed over the Grave!

**I. He made you alive together with Him**

**Colossians 2:13***—When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions*

A. The significance of “with Him” or “in Him”

**2:6***—…walk in Him*

**2:7***—…built up in Him*

**2:10***—…in Him you have been made complete*

**2:11***—…in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands*

**2: 12***—***…***having been buried with Him in baptism*

**2:12***—…raised**up with Him through faith in the working of God*

**2:13***—He made you alive together with Him*

B. Our natural desire to find answers elsewhere

1. The church at Laodicea

**Colossians 2:1***—For I want you to know how great a struggle I have on your behalf and for those who are at Laodicea, and for all those who have not personally seen my face…*

**Colossians 2:4***—I say this so that no one will delude you with persuasive argument.*

**Colossians 2:1***—***…***those who are at Laodicea…*

**Colossians 4:16***—When this letter is read among you, have it also read in the church of the Laodiceans; and you, for your part read my letter that is coming from Laodicea.*

2*. The problem at Laodicea*

**Revelation 3:15-22***—I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot. So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth. Because you say, “I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing,” and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked, I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself, and that the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see. Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me. He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.*

C. Make sure we rightly assess our problem

**Colossians 2:13***—When you were dead in your transgressions…*

1. Dead in your transgressions

**Romans 3:23***—For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God…*

**Romans 6:23***—For the wages of sin is death…*

**Colossians 2:13***—When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh…*

2. Dead in the uncircumcision of your flesh

**Romans 5:12***—Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned…*

**Colossians 2:11***—and in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ…*

**Colossians 2:13***—When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him…*

**II. He has forgiven us all our sins**

**Colossians 2:13c***—…having forgiven us all our transgressions.*

A. God’s forgiveness is by grace alone

**Romans 3:24***—…being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus.*

B. God’s forgiveness is complete

**Ephesians 1:7***—We have been forgiven “according to the riches of His grace.*

C God is eager to forgive

**Ezekiel 18:23***— “Do I have any pleasure in the death of the wicked," declares the Lord GOD, "rather than that he should turn from his ways and live?*

**Psalm 86:5***—*For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, And abundant in lovingkindness to all who call upon You.

D. God’s forgiveness is certain

**Acts 26:18***—to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, in order that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.'*

E. God’s forgiveness is Incomparable

**Micah 7:18***—*Who is a God like You, who pardons iniquity And passes over the rebellious act of the remnant of His [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Micah+7%3A18+&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22683a)]possession? He does not retain His anger forever, Because He delights in [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Micah+7%3A18+&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22683b)]unchanging love.

F. God’s forgiveness is proactive

**Ephesians 4:32***—And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.*

***Romans 5:8****—But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*

G. His forgiveness cancels out the certificate of debt

**Colossians 2:14***—having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us…*

H. His forgiveness was complete when it was nailed to the cross

**Colossians 2:14***—…the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.*

**Revelation 3:20***—Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me.*

**III. He secures our eternal freedom by His victory**

**Colossians 3:15**—*When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.*

**Genesis 3:15***—And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel.*

**1 Peter 3:18-19***—For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit; in which also He went and made proclamation to the spirits now in prison*

**Hebrews 2:14-15***—Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.*