

September 10, 2025

Daily Reflections



CHRIST IS ALL IN ALL

By David C. Robinson, SJ

Excerpts from Today's Readings

Brothers and sisters: If you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Think of what is above, not of what is on earth. For you have died; your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ your life appears, you too will appear with him in glory.... Now you must put them all away: anger, fury, malice, slander, and obscene language out of your mouths. Stop lying to one another, since you have taken off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed, for knowledge, in the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all and in all.

COLOSSIANS 3:1-5, 8-11

Raising his eyes toward his disciples Jesus said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for the Kingdom of God is yours. Blessed are you who are now hungry,

for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who are now weeping, for you will laugh. Rejoice and leap for joy on that day! Behold, your reward will be great in heaven."

LUKE 6:20-21, 23

Reflection

We are accustomed to the admonitions of Jesus and Paul regarding behavior appropriate to the Christian life and ministry. We may experience a temptation to reduce these moral lists to a series of maxims that we must adhere to by our own volition and discipline. Our personal measure can become more didactic than mystical. Yet, the letter to the Colossians draws our attention to a deeper and more radically profound connection to the God who invites us to a transformation of life. This is not a conversion of conviction—it is an absolute re-creation of our self-awareness as Christian community. The letter professes: **Think of what is above, not of what is on earth. For you have died; your life is hidden with Christ in God.** The reality of our daily living has been absorbed into the cosmic wonder of the cross and resurrection. We are no longer believers on a path. We are integrally united to God's very consciousness as a saving presence in our deepest selves.

However, there are many manifestations of human ego and resentment that can cloud the profound promise of a life *hidden in Christ with God*. Jesus manifested righteous indignation at the hypocrisy and manipulation he witnessed in the Pharisees and others of influence in his Jewish community. But he never countenanced the **anger, fury, malice, slander, and obscene language** that can stain our responses, personal and public, in the name of political or religious orthodoxies. These have no place in our claims to Christian integrity or authority. We are admonished that true fulfillment in our lives is only possible by embracing the new spirit that we have encountered: **since {we} have taken off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed, for knowledge, in the image of its creator.**

In a world of divisions we are urged to recognize the promise that has been brought to being within us. These are not words of recrimination or self-negation. They manifest the realization that, as the people of God, we are daily invited to embrace what the eternal gift of resurrected life can make a reality in and through us. As we learn to cherish what Christ has offered, we come to embody the grace that leads us to **rejoice and leap for joy on that day! Behold, our reward will be great in heaven.** This is not a contract, but a covenant, one that frees us to live without rancor or accusation. With the

unfolding of this spiritual rebirth, we discover the endless blessings that are released when we surrender to the freedom of **life hidden with Christ in God**. Then justice is an invitation and not a condemnation, and the harbinger of love released in our Church and society.



The Life of Christ in God
Image created by David C. Robinson, SJ

For Pondering

- How do you experience the social distrust and accusation that infuses so many relationships in our contemporary society?
- Do you feel invited to discover more deeply what your 'life in God' can bring to your peace of soul and respect for others living in conflict?
- How might you invite others in your circle to discover a new mode of

dialog that makes communication possible?

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