

Two Contrasting Spheres

The second fact which these verses make clear, is that it is a co-crucifixion. Our "old man" was crucified *with Christ*. This declares both the method and the time of the crucifixion. There is often confusion at this point.

Paul says, "I have been crucified *with Christ*." He did not try to crucify himself nor did his crucifixion take place at some special point in his spiritual experience through some act on his part. It did not take place in Damascus, Arabia, or even when he was caught up to the third heaven. But the death of the old "I" took place on the Cross when Christ died there.

This truth becomes easy of apprehension if we but remember that God sees every person either "in Adam" or "in Christ." He deals with the human race through these two representative men. When Adam died the human race died in him. You died in Adam. So did I. Through that spiritual death "the old man" found birth and usurped God's place on the throne of man's life. But Christ came as the last Adam to recover for God and for the race all that had been lost to them through the first Adam. Christ died and the race of sinners died in Him. The old "I" in you and in me was judicially crucified with Christ. "Ye died," and your death dates from the death of Christ.

The perfection of God's grace is marvelously manifested in this glorious fact of co-crucifix-