

January 14, 2020

Christ's Love

2 Cor. 5:14-15 For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. 15 And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again.

This passage has always stuck in my mind. I'm trying desperately to get it from my mind into my heart. For you see, Paul said Christ's love compels us. The Greek term used here is the word *anagkazo*. It means to urge, force, conscript or necessitate. Our country uses this term, conscription, as a means to draft young men into service during times of war.

Paul states here that it is Christ's indescribable love that conscripts us into His service instead of into our own. For the greater good. Not my will, but thine. He then describes this compelling by saying we should no longer live for ourselves. How is this possible? Can a person truly live For Him instead of for themselves? And if so, what could motivate us to do so? It is realizing the greatness, the magnitude of Christ's love.

Gal. 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. Paul says in simple terms, this is not my life anymore, it is His. The reason? His great love conscripted me. It is my honor to serve Him. I remember my father, who didn't like to talk about WWII, counting it such a privilege to serve his country. So many gave so much and continue to do so for the country that they love. How much more, should we as those who have accepted the love of Christ, count it a great joy to serve the Master!

There is a Hymn that puts this correctly - Glorious Day - Living, He loved me
Dying, He saved me
Buried, He carried my sins far away
Rising, He justified freely forever
One day He's coming
Oh glorious day, oh glorious day

Dear Lord, thank You for living for me. Thank You for dying for me. You loved me and you saved me. Now Lord, help me to live for you today, and every day that You give to me. In Jesus Name, Amen.