

# **Occupation with Christ**

Revised 2-22-2018

The Lord Jesus Christ has always been and will always be our best Friend. We have to learn about Him through the word of God so we can truly realize what a friend He is. The more we learn and believe about Jesus, the more we will see how wonderful He is. We will come to see how great His thinking is and we will want to think like He does. We will want to be occupied with Jesus and His thoughts. We will want to have **occupation with Christ!**



*2 Peter 3:18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever! Amen.*

As believers, we start out as babies. For our spiritual nourishment or soul food, we have just "milk". However, we have great "milk". The Holy Spirit teaches us basic facts in the word of God. As we grow, He teaches us more of God's truths. We can put our faith and trust in what God teaches us in His word because God is truth! As we take in this wonderful nourishment, the Holy Spirit will change our point of view to God's point of view. We will be growing up spiritually!



***1 Peter 2:1-3 Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.***

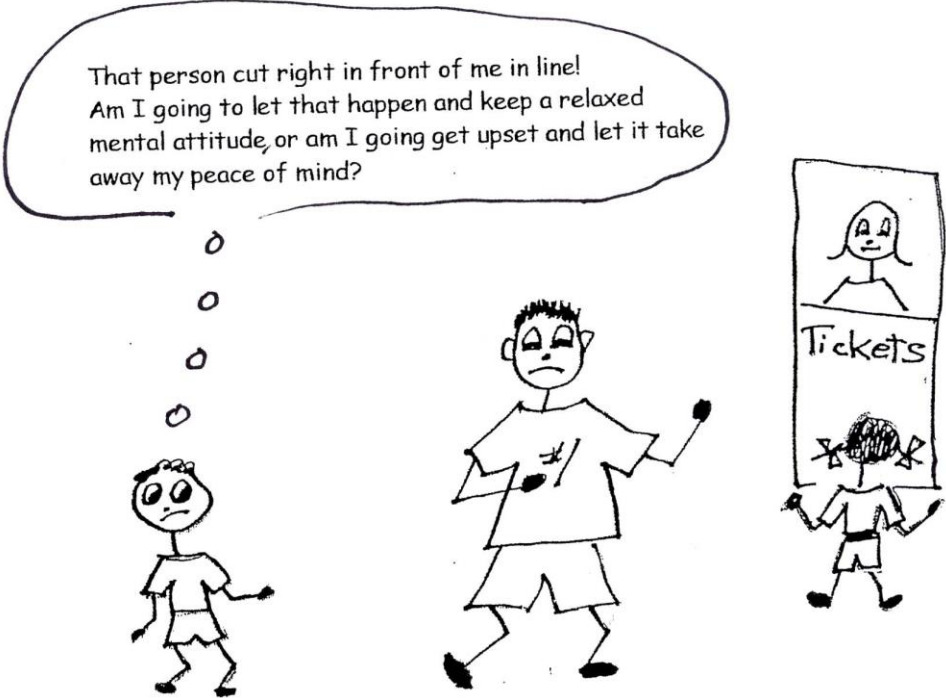
When we are occupied with Christ, we live in our new man; we think with divine viewpoint. Sure, there are going to be times when we'll slip into our old man and use human viewpoint. At those times, we just need to remember what our Redeemer did for us: Colossians 1:13-14 "For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." We are to stop sinning and renew our thinking with His thinking. God the Holy Spirit will give us the power to do this because we can't do it with our human power. When we live in our new man, we have the thinking of Christ!

***Ephesians 4:22-24***

*That in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old man, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lust of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new man, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.*



We learn many commands and promises from God through studying the Bible. We say that we believe them. Then God allows us to be tested to see if we really believe them. For instance, let's say that a friend acts unkind to us. We are told not to repay him or her for the unkind act. We are told to have love for all. We are told that God will discipline him or her. God knows the best way to discipline all of us and get us back on the right track. If we believe these commands, we will trust God and have a relaxed mental attitude. Now I'm not saying that it is easy to do. However, the more we use the power of the Holy Spirit and the more we trust in God's ways, the easier the sufferings or tests will be. We will be thinking more like Jesus. We'll be occupied with Christ!



**Romans 12:17-18** *Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men. If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.*



When we are occupied with Christ, our mind is busy with His thinking. We are able to keep stress out of our minds. Our minds are relaxed. We have a relaxed mental attitude! We can focus on the Lord Jesus Christ's amazing love for us, and our love for Him. Christ will be at home and comfortable in our minds. We can be at home and comfortable with our best Friend. The Holy Spirit gives us His power to do all of this. Let's be **occupied with Christ** and relax!

*Ephesians 3:16-19 I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may be at home in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established [grounded] in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge - that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.*