

The Old Man of Scripture - and Radio Stoke!¹

Introduction – Owd Grandad Piggott

OGP, Owd (Old) Grandad Piggott², needs no introduction to regular listeners of Radio Stoke of a certain vintage. However, the rest of us will need some explanation, the above site being most helpful, though the audio links don't function, the site having been archived.

As the site reveals, OGP is a bad lot. As such, he typifies the old man of scripture. Coping with OGP was a challenge for his neighbours – and the law! Coping with the old man of scripture is likewise a challenge for today's believer but it is a challenge that can be met victoriously. This study shows how.

“Baptized into Jesus Christ” Romans 6:3

Romans 6:3 states ***“Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?”*** Paul equates baptism into the Lord's death with baptism into the Lord Himself.

To be baptised into the Lord's death is therefore the saving baptism of the believer by the Spirit of God into the Lord Jesus Christ whereby the believer is embedded permanently in the body of Christ and the Lord's death on the cross becomes the death of ***“the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts”*** Ephesians 4:22 the believer's former self or 'old creature' before by baptism into the body of Christ he has become ***“in Christ...a new creature”*** 2 Corinthians 5:17. Note how Paul in effect testifies to the old Paul supplanted by the new Paul.

“For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit...Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular” 1 Corinthians 12:13, 27.

“I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me” Galatians 2:20.

“For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory” Colossians 3:3-4.

“Our old man...crucified” Romans 6:6

Romans 6:4 states ***“Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”***

Baptism into the Lord's death is equivalent to the burial of ***“our old man”*** crucified with the Lord Jesus Christ just as the Lord Jesus Christ was buried after He was crucified *although* in the case of the Christian ***“our old man”*** though ***“buried with him by baptism into death”*** is nevertheless simultaneously still on the cross as Paul says ***“I am crucified with Christ,”*** suffering a slow death as ***“the body of sin”*** i.e. ***“the flesh.”***

“Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin” Romans 6:6.

“The flesh” has been nailed to ***“the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ”*** Galatians 6:14 by the individual's willingness to become ***“in Christ...a new creature”*** 2 Corinthians 5:17. That is today's believer's testimony.

“And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts” Galatians 5:24.



“Put off...the old man” Ephesians 4:22

Romans 6:5 states *“For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection.”* *“Our old man”* is gone *“buried with him by baptism into death”* Romans 6:4, that is *“planted...in the likeness of his death”* i.e. the Lord’s. Today’s believer does now *“walk in newness of life”* Romans 6:4 *“in the likeness of his resurrection”* in effect *leaving an empty tomb like the Lord did* because *“the new man”* Ephesians 4:24, Colossians 3:10 has supplanted *“the old man.”*

Paul therefore enjoins believers *“That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts”* Ephesians 4:22 in practice *“seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds”* Colossians 3:9 *already having become “in Christ...a new creature”* 2 Corinthians 5:17.

In sum as Paul states *“Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him”* Romans 6:8.

Concerning *“our old man...crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed”* Romans 6:6 and *“the flesh”* nailed to *“the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ”* Galatians 6:14 Paul explains that the complete fulfilment of *“newness of life...in the likeness of his resurrection”* Romans 6:3, 4 is *“the redemption of our body”* Romans 8:23 at the Lord’s Return.

“The redemption of our body,” which is also today’s believer’s testimony, is as Paul states. *“For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself”* Philippians 3:20-21.

“Reckon ye also yourselves...dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God” Romans 6:11

Romans 6:9-10 state *“Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.”* *“According to the scriptures”* 1 Corinthians 15:3, 4 today’s believer knows that:

“But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool” Hebrews 10:12-13, which is how *“he liveth unto God”* in that *prophetically* God’s promise to the Lord Jesus Christ is *“Thou hast also given me the necks of mine enemies, that I might destroy them that hate me”* 2 Samuel 22:41, Psalm 18:40. Today’s believer also knows of the Lord Jesus Christ that:

“I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death” Revelation 1:18, which is how *“death hath no more dominion over him”* because *“the princes of this world...crucified the Lord of glory”* 1 Corinthians 2:9 in that *“the prince of this world”* John 12:31, 14:30, 16:11 was *“him that had the power of death, that is, the devil”* Hebrews 2:15 *but no more because God has given that power to the Lord Jesus Christ* as the Lord said *“All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth”* Matthew 28:18.

Today’s believer should therefore do as Paul states *“Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord”* Romans 6:11 in *“that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again”* 2 Corinthians 5:15 as the disciples themselves showed as recorded in what should be a life verse for each and every one of today’s believers. *“...Amen: the LORD God of my lord the king say so too”* 1 Kings 1:36.

“And the disciples went, and did as Jesus commanded them” Matthew 21:6.

References

¹ www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/ Adapted from *Romans 6 Part 1*

² www.bbc.co.uk/stoke/content/articles/2005/12/06/cd_grandad_piggott_feature.shtml *Local Heroes- Owd Grandad Piggott*

www.flickr.com/photos/thedownstairslounge/12718845364