



**BECOMING WHAT WE ARE (Part 1)**

**Text:** Romans 6:1-5

**Central Truth:** True salvation radically changes our hearts and lives because of our living, spiritual, vital union with Christ.

**vv.1-2 I. The Questions of Confrontation**

**v.1** Paul begins with a rhetorical question. He anticipated the “antinomians”, who would twist and pervert his teaching.

**v.2** NASB – **May it never be!**, KJV – **God forbid**, NIV – **By no means!**, CSB – **Absolutely not!** (Greek – *may genoito*) This is one of the strongest negatives used in the New Testament. Paul is horrified at any suggestion whatsoever that sin could be good, pleasing, or glorifying to God!

**vv.3-5 II. The Explanation of Identification**

**v.3** (Greek – *baptizo*) It has two meanings:

1. **Literal meaning** – to immerse, to dip
2. **Figurative meaning** – to be identified with something

(cf. *1 Corinthians 10:1-2*) As Baptists, we immerse because it is the best physical picture or symbol of our spiritual identification with Jesus.

**v.5** NASB & NIV – **united with Him**, KJV – **planted together**

This word is found only here in all the New Testament. It gives us the imagery of being grown together like a new limb is grafted to a tree! We have been spiritually united and identified with Jesus. Our old, pre-conversion lifestyle, with all its sinful thinking and behavior, is not acceptable at all.



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