

It's All About Me!

Many glorify themselves

“I think I’m fascinating”

“Me” generation – focus on themselves

What does the Bible say about “me”?

I. Glorifying God In Me,
Gal.1:24

Paul's past / pardon – extreme makeover

- House – ugly house becomes showplace
- Person – change looks
- Behavior – give up annoying habits
- Paul – transforming grace
 - Lord does not destroy His enemies; converts them to His service.
 - His conversion praises God's glory.

Paul does not preach himself

- “In me” is not “on account of me”
- “In” describes the sphere in which the action takes place
- Paul does not preach himself, 2 Cor.4:5
- “Me” is a small, profitless subject
 - Ex.14:4
 - Ac.9
 - Ro.8:37

Paul does not preach himself

- BUT: “me” passages do not focus on Paul himself; emphasize what Christ did *for* him and *in* him.
- Paul did not let past sin or success hinder present duty – Ph.3:13.
- Lk.9:61-62

I. Glorifying God In Me, Gal.1:24

II. Gave Himself For Me,
Gal.2:20

The sequence

- I no longer live, 20
 - I died (crucified with Christ)

He was crucified for me –
salvation from sin's punishment (pardon)

I am crucified with Him –
salvation from sin's power (purity)

- Ro.6:6
- Hb.12:2, shame of the cross

The sequence

- I no longer live, 20
- Christ lives in me. Ep.2:15
- I now live by faith in Son of God.
- Loved me, gave Himself for me.
 - Basis of salvation: love, sacrifice for me
 - *I* and *me* – 9 times in verses 19-21

I. Glorifying God In Me, Gal.1:24

II. Gave Himself For Me, Gal.2:20

III. World Crucified To Me,
Gal.6:14

The facts

- **Glory: boast + cross: metonymy; paradox**
 - Nothing more humiliating than cross
- **When was world crucified?**
 - When Paul was crucified, he sentenced '*world*' to death [no common ground between Paul and world].
 - Crucifixion is torture, tactless, terminal.
- **When was Paul crucified to world? 5:24**
 - When he crucified its passions and desires of his flesh

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II. Gave Himself For Me, Gal.2:20

III. World Crucified To Me, Gal.2:20

IV. To Me To Live Is Christ,
Phil.1:21

It's personal

- To me: *personal*. No one can obey for me.
- To live: *practical*. Someone controls us.
- Is Christ: *purposeful*. My life is Christ.

It's personal

- Application – To me to live is _____?
 - Praise? Ph.1:15-17
 - Pattern? Ph.2:5-12
 - Pessimism? Ph.2:14
 - Piety? Ph.3:2-3
 - Pursuits? Ph.3:6
 - Possessions? Ph.3:7-8
 - Pleasures? Ph.3:18-19

I. Glorifying God In Me, Gal.1:24

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III. World Crucified To Me, Gal.2:20

IV. To Me To Live Is Christ, Gal.2:20

V. Him Who Strengthens Me,
Phil.4:13

Passage is not saying . . .

- Positive mental attitude gives us ability to do any job.
- Jesus gives us right to do any job.
- All have same talents.

We can endure life's trials, carry our burdens, be content with circumstances as Paul was...in the Lord's strength. 2 Co.12:7-10.