

# **Love Compels Us!**

**11-5-17**

2 Corinthians 5:14 (ESV)

For **the love of Christ controls (compels) us**, because we have concluded this: that one (Jesus) **has died** for all (believers), therefore all (believers) **have died** (to the self life)!

2 Corinthians 5:15 (ESV)

HE (Jesus) died for all (believers), **that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him (Jesus)** who for their sake died and was raised.

**We always want to keep the message simple: Jesus loves us and died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. However it is good examine verses like these to grasp the full meaning and impact of what God has done for those who trust HIM!**

2 Corinthians 5:14a (ESV)

For **the love of Christ controls (compels) us**, because we have concluded this: that one (Jesus) **has died** for all (believers).

**The love of Christ compels** us “because” we have concluded something, believed something, made a decision about something. What have we concluded? What have we believed? We have concluded that Jesus has died for all believers.

2 Corinthians 5:14b (ESV)

**Therefore** all (believers) **have died** (to the self life)!

**This is not “we were dead” but “we have died”. Died to what? When we trust Christ we identify with Christ and **have died to living to self**. We become something new!**

2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, **he is a new creation**. The old has passed away; behold, **the new has come**.

**The outcome of Christian newness of life is that we are **compelled by the love of Christ** to live no longer for ourselves but for Christ who died for us.**

2 Corinthians 5:15 (ESV)

HE (Jesus) died for all (believers), **that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him (Jesus)** who for their sake died and was raised.

**We call this obedience but in reality this is “identification” with Christ and “acting” on that identification. Therefore, **the love of Christ compels** and **therefore impacts our behavior**.**

**Living the reality requires a heart felt decision based on the truth of what Christ has done.**

Romans 6:11 (ESV)

So you also must **consider (reckon)** yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

**This identification with “dying” with Christ “**dying to self**” should lead, to “living for Christ”. For those who are raised with Christ, a new creation, will behave like Christ and walk “in newness of life”!**

Romans 6:4 (ESV)

We were **buried** therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was **raised** from the dead by the glory of the Father, **we too might walk in newness of life.**

**The picture of OT sacrifice gives us a picture of the NT work of Christ and the impact on the believer.**

Leviticus 1:4 (ESV)

He shall lay his hand on the head of the burnt offering, and **it shall be accepted for him** to make “**atonement**” for him.

**The sinner must identify himself with a sacrificial victim, OT animal. Therefore when the animal is sacrificed, the person identifying with the sacrifice in effect dies with it. This is the picture of Jesus! Then the blood of the victim is sprinkled to clear the way to God.**

Leviticus 1:5 (ESV)

The priests shall bring the blood and throw the blood against the sides of the altar **that is at the entrance of the tent** of meeting.

The blood is necessary because it signifies Jesus giving HIS life, preparing the way to God. **“The life is in the blood!”**

Leviticus 17:11 (ESV)

**For the life of the flesh is in the blood**, and I have given it for you on the altar to make **atonement** for your souls, for **it is the blood (of Jesus) that makes atonement by the life (HE has given).**

In other words, Jesus became sin, or rather a sin offering for humanity, so that people could be justified before God through HIS shed blood. **The love of Christ compels us** because we have concluded that Jesus died and **shed HIS blood for us.**



**This verse is so appropriate!**

2Cor.5:21 (NIV)

God made HIM who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in HIM we might become the righteousness of God.

**This is a Supernatural born again experience!  
However we must daily Identify with the truth!  
When we identify with Christ, **the love of Christ compels us** and **we are empowered by the Holy Spirit.****

2 Corinthians 5:14 (ESV)

**The love of Christ controls (compels) us!**

**Paul clearly states the power of identifying with Christ and the impact on our behavior.**

Galatians 2:20 (ESV)

**I have been crucified with Christ.** It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

2Cor.5:15

HE (Jesus) died for all (believers), **that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him (Jesus)** who for their sake died and was raised.

**Prophetic Team**

***Hear from the Holy Spirit to change the current situation or impact the future.***