Behind the Hymn: I'm in You

This devotional hymn was inspired by 1 Thessalonians 4:13 - 5:11, especially 5:10:

He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. (NIV)

The hymn was also influenced by other scriptures that are deeply meaningful to me, such as Philippians 1:21 and Colossians 3:1-4.

I've come to believe that salvation is not so much what Christ *does* as what He *is*. All the blessings that come to us through Christ--love, peace, joy, hope, etc.--are His own personal characteristics. They do not come to us as a "something", wrapped up and handed to us. They come as *He* comes to us and unites His Spirit with ours. They come *in Him*.

There is a living union with Christ that can best be described as being *in Him*. It is a union that began in the heart of our Father before the foundation of the world.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing.

He chose us **in Christ** before foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before Him.

In Him we have redemption through his blood.

In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance.

In him *you...were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.* (Ephesians 1:3, 4, 7, 11, 13 NRSV)

In Christ the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him. (Colossians 2:9-10, NRSV)

Like all the blessings of salvation, living *in Christ* comes to us by grace, through faith (Ephesians 2:8). It comes through a living, ongoing relationship of trust. We are one with Him as we trust Him. It's that simple.

Brother or sister in Christ, share with me this one deep longing and constant goal: to live every moment *in Christ*, now and forever.

--Ken Bible

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