

YOU CAN BE BE- HEADED FOR CHRIST !

By Kelly Koshatka

“And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them : and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus and for the Word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands, and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years” (Rev.20:4).

In Revelation chapter 20 we read about saints who have been beheaded for the witness of Jesus and for the Word of God. I have always only thought of those scriptures in a literal and physical way until the Holy Spirit began to share with me concerning the deeper inward work of the Cross that brings about the headship of Christ. What greater way to be a witness of Jesus Christ then to allow His Life to shine through you rather than your old nature? What greater expression could we give to the Word of God then through allowing the Word Himself to made flesh in us and manifest His Life through us to others? To bear witness in these ways requires the in-working of the Cross. Those who have allowed this in-working may have never lost their physical heads in a guillotine, but they have let the Cross sever their connection to the old man in a deep and impacting way.

The reality is that we have already been crucified with Christ and the old has been cut off and removed through the finished work of His Cross. We are now raised up and gathered in Christ as one Body with only one Head. The Cross has removed the old and joined us as One with Jesus. The Cross speaks of God’s total work of separation that completely put away all of what we were in the old through the death of Christ, and has raised us up in Him as the vessel of His fullness. To know and receive of this fullness of Life requires the renewing of our minds, where we put on the Mind of Christ and put off the old man and His headship. In this sense, “beheading” is the reality of the Cross being received and applied through our faith.

“For He is before all things, and by Him all things consist. He is the Head of the body, the church; Who is the beginning, the First-born from the dead; that in all things He might have the pre-eminence. For it pleased the Father that in Him should all fullness dwell” (Col. 1:17-19). The Son of His Love is Jesus Christ, by Whom all things consist. He is the Head and pre-eminent in all things, even as Him Who is the fullness of the Body. We must receive Jesus as our Head in order to manifest Him as our Life. In order for this to happen fully we must become “beheaded” by truly receiving the work of Christ’s Cross.

The Headstrong Need To Lose Their Head and Become Strong in the Head.

It's not just a matter of right and wrong, or being rebellious. When we choose to cut off from the Head – we're dead. All our Life and vitality flows through our connection with Jesus Christ, the Head of His Body. To allow place for the old man to remain in a position of headship in our hearts and minds is to allow death to mingle into all we do.

How Do We Become Beheaded?

I had always thought beheading was just something physical that happened to saints who were martyred for Christ, but I believe it is something that also happens spiritually as we continually yield our hearts to the severing work of the Cross. The Spirit applies the Word of the Cross as a two-edged sword that circumcises / cuts off the old within so that we can enter into the new.

The day to “lay my head on the wood block” is not at the end of my course when I become a martyr. Rather it is the daily Cross that I allow to go deep inside my heart and do its severing work. Each time I yield to the Word of the Cross in this way, I am receiving the Headship of Christ and allowing the headship of the old man to be removed.

Some may wait for the great and dramatic day of our martyrdom, but TODAY is the day of salvation. Today is the day to “lay our head down on the block” by yielding to the inward work of the Cross. We can allow the Spirit of God to continually sever our connection to the old as He raises up all our understanding into Him Who is the Head.

Today Is The Day To Embrace The Altar, And Allow His Death To Be Applied To Every Living Area In Us.

It does not require an external circumstance for us to know Christ in this way. The Spirit of God is ready and waiting to reveal and apply the reality of Christ's Cross into our hearts today. Let us turn to the Spirit of God as He ministers in us that which God has brought forth through Christ's death, burial and resurrection. We can prepare our hearts today so that we are ready in the time of outward persecution. And then when the day of testing in the earth comes, we will gloriously manifest the Headship and Nature of the Lamb as He comes forth through us.

There is a company of those who follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth (Rev. 14:4). These are those who daily have chosen the path of following Jesus in union of Body to Head; they are the “dead whose works followeth them” (Rev.14:13). They could not follow in this way if they were still alive to self and walking independently from Christ's Headship. These are they who have found Jesus in His Resurrection to be the Head and fullness of the Body. They are lead by His eyes and His mind for they have already died to their own selves.

David was the rightful head of Israel, for God had anointed him King. But there was a time when David was not accepted as king over all of Israel. The people needed to bring him back in his rightful place as king and head of Israel (I Chron. 11:1-4). Of course, David here is only a type and shadow. Christ is the true King that God has anointed to be Head and fullness for the true Israel of God, which is His Body.