TITLE: Living Epistles

TEXT: 2Co 3:2 Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men:

Every true Christian is an epistle of Christ. He is the writer.

1. The Power of It – NO CONDEMNATION

Blotted out my guilt and shame and my reproach and wrote in where there had been guilt and shame and rejection. NO CONDEMNATION.

Someday this world will quit their laughing

The rich man lifted his eyes in hell being in torment.

* He remembered🡨 missed opportunities in hell.

Ro 8:1 ¶ *There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*

2. The Design of it – To Convey the Mind of Christ

Many refused the Gospel. We must live in such a way they see a difference. A letter is written is for the purpose of being seen**. The Christian must let his Christianity to be visible**. Live in such a way that Christ is seen in us. Those Christian in NAME only are in no sense a LIVING EPISTLE.

They have a church they attend but they are lost. IN NAME ONLY a Christian.

2Co 3:3 Forasmuch as ye are **manifestly declared** to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.

Christ lives by a power that conquered death. WHY seek you the living among the dead?!?!?!

Always keep in mind that the testimony of Jesus is related to His resurrection from the dead. He lives by a power that has conquered death.

Only a true Christian can express the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

Ga 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Christ manifested IN us.

Php 1:21 ¶ For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

2 Cor. 3:2 Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men:

Why are letters misunderstood???

* OMISSIONS Something missing!
* CONTRADICTIONS – Life and words don’t LINE UP! Live one way before the church and live another way before the world.

Col 1:27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

Eph 3:17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,

18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;

19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

Who Writes?

The Spirit of the Living God. No writing on the human spirit is durable, except that which is written by the Holy Spirit for that is ETERNAL.

2Co 3:3 Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ **ministered by us,** written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.

This gospel must be preached.

Matthew 24

2Co 4:5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

Christ stands with the Believer.