

# Romans 6:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

## Analysis

**Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death**—the aorist passive *synetaphēmen* (συνετάφημεν, "we were buried with") indicates completed action. The compound verb with *syn* (with) emphasizes union: not buried like Him but with Him. Immersion baptism dramatizes burial—the baptismal waters as a symbolic grave. Burial confirms death's reality; Christ was truly dead (contradocetic heresies), and believers truly participate in that death.

**That like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father** (*hōsper ēgerthē Christos ek nekrōn dia tēs doxēs tou patros*)—the parallel structure *hōsper...* *houtōs* (just as... so also) establishes correspondence: Christ's resurrection ↔ believer's new life. **The glory of the Father** refers to God's divine power manifested in resurrection. **Walk in newness of life** (*en kainotēti zōēs peripatēsōmen*)—*kainotēs* (newness) is qualitatively new, not chronologically new; *peripatēsōmen* (walk) is aorist subjunctive, indicating purpose: "that we might walk." Resurrection life isn't automatic but volitional—believers must walk in the new life made available through union with Christ.

## Historical Context

Roman burial practices included elaborate funeral processions and entombment, making burial imagery powerful. The glory (*doxa*) of God was a familiar Jewish concept (*shekinah* glory, Exodus 40:34), now revealed in resurrection power. Early

Christians understood baptism as a reenactment of death-burial-resurrection, often conducted at Easter to emphasize resurrection symbolism. The ethical imperative to "walk in newness of life" reflects Jewish halakhic tradition—"walk" as metaphor for moral conduct.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. What specific areas of your life still reflect the 'old walk' rather than newness of life in Christ?
2. How does Christ's resurrection 'by the glory of the Father' assure you of power for daily sanctification?
3. In what practical ways can you 'walk in newness of life' this week in relationships, work, or habits?

## Interlinear Text

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συνετάφημεν      οὖν      αὐτῷ      διὰ      τοῦ      βαπτίσματος      εἰς      τὸν  
we are buried with      Therefore      him      by      G3588      baptism      into      G3588  
G4916                    G3767                    G846                    G1223                    G908                    G1519  
  
θάνατον      ἵνα      ὡσπερ      ἦγέρθη      Χριστὸς      ἐκ      νεκρῶν      διὰ  
death      that      like as      was raised up      Christ      from      the dead      by  
G2288                    G2443                    G5618                    G1453                    G5547                    G1537                    G3498                    G1223  
  
τῆς      δόξης      τοῦ      πατρός      οὕτως      καὶ      ἡμεῖς      ἐν  
G3588                    the glory      G3588                    of the Father      even so      also      we      in  
G1391                    G3962                    G3779                    G2532                    G2249                    G1722  
  
καινότητι      ζωῆς      περιπατήσωμεν  
newness      of life      should walk  
G2538                    G2222                    G4043

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Corinthians 5:17** (References Christ): Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

**Colossians 3:10** (Parallel theme): And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

**Romans 7:6** (Parallel theme): But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter.

**1 Peter 3:21** (Resurrection): The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

**Romans 6:9** (Resurrection): Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.

**2 Corinthians 13:4** (Parallel theme): For though he was crucified through weakness, yet he liveth by the power of God. For we also are weak in him, but we shall live with him by the power of God toward you.

**Romans 6:3** (Baptism): Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

**1 John 2:6** (Parallel theme): He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

**1 Corinthians 6:14** (Resurrection): And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power.

**Romans 8:11** (Resurrection): But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

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