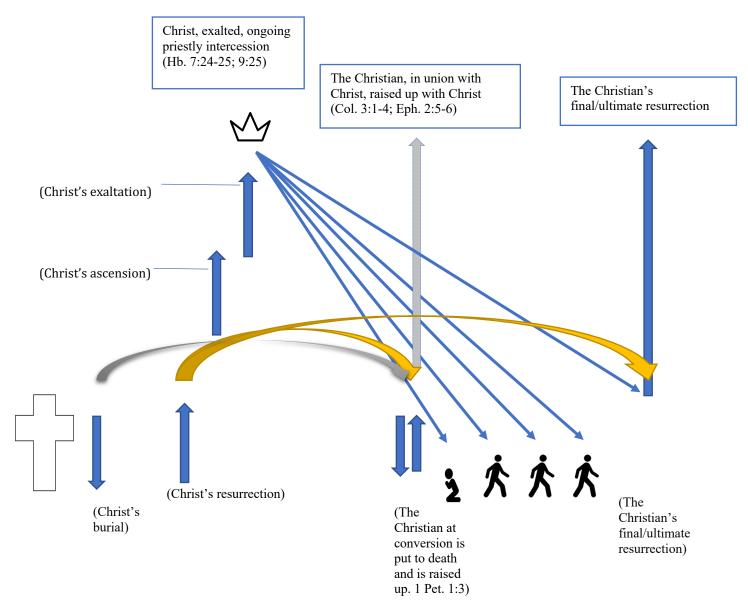
(Flow of time from death of Christ, to conversion, continuation of Christian life, and final resurrection of the believer)



(At each of these points, the exalted and risen Christ is engaged his ongoing priestly intercession for his people. The death and resurrection of Christ is the power of God which *initiates* one's salvation, but the gospel is also that power which allows the believer to *continue to walk* by grace and to *persevere*, to fight sin, obey, "work," throughout the whole Christian life. At conversion the person both dies with Christ, and is raised up. The walking stick

figure **X** symbolizes the fact that throughout the Christian life the risen Lord Jesus brings to bear upon the Christian his own blood shed on the cross. Hence, throughout the Christian's life, Jesus intercedes for the Christian by bringing the sin-killing power of the cross (John Owen's words) to bear upon the Christian. Thus, when the Christian obeys the Lord, or "works," or fights sin, it *is* the believer doing so, but it is also the case that the believer is doing so because Christ is interceding for his people, and in a sense applying the power of his death to the believer throughout his or her whole life. Similarly, the believer at conversion is "raised up" in and through the resurrection of Jesus himself which is in a sense "applied" to the believer 1:3). The resurrection of Christ is the source or font of the believer's initial "resurrection" at conversion as well as the source or font of the believer's being put to death in conversion flows from the fact that Jesus died for the sinner 2000 years ago.