

REVIEW OF THE DOCTRINE OF OUR IDENTITY “IN CHRIST”: (Positional Truth)

1. The reality of our being “in Christ.”

- Gal. 3:26-28 - IDENTIFICATION ISSUE!

- (:27) = New Identity - “put on” (Aor. Mid. Ind. ἐνδύω = to sink into; to dress or clothe)

- Note, our English word, “ENDUE” = to furnish, to supply with, to endow - but whereas “invest” is something that is purely external, “endue” is something that is purely internal.

- If you ever wondered what your “inner man” is supposed to look like, this is it- your “inner man’s” clothing is Christ, Himself!

- (:28) = Loss of Old, former Identity

- Passages in God’s word dealing with how often and how critical this issue of being “in Christ” is.

- Rom. 6:3 - (Exhortation issue)

- Rom. 12:4,5 - (who you are individually/collectively)

- I Cor. 1:1-2, 30-31

- I Cor. 3:1-2 - (:2) Used for our edification status.

- Gal. 5:6; 6:15-16 - (:15)

- Eph.1:3 (Exaltation issue)

- Eph.1:6-7, 10

- Eph.2:10

- Col.2:8-12

- Who you are in Christ really is the sum & substance of everything we’re taught in this dispensation of grace - and God expects us to understand who He has made you to be in His Son - and in fact, it is the key issue of successfully living the Christian life is understanding and appreciating who God has made you to be in Christ, and responding according.

- Passages that dealing with the issue of responding to who you are “in Christ.”

- Eph.5:3- 8

- Eph.4:29

- Rom.13:11-14

2. Our former offensive identification of who we were “in Adam”.

- I Cor. 15:21-22

- Gen.1:26-27 .cp Gen.5:1-3

- Note that Adam became a sinner BY NATURE, ungodly, unrighteous, and condemned to death!

- And we possess BY NATURE of our physical birth, his nature as sons of Adam - i.e., we acquire by nature Adam’s position and IDENTIFICATION before God as deserving of His condemnation!

A. The three major components of being “In Adam”:

1) Condemnation (Rom. 5:16,18)

2) Abomination (Titus 1:15-16)

3) Alienation (Col. 1:21; Eph. 4:18)

B. The three major components of our Condemnation:

1) All Under Sin (Rom.1:18-32; 3:9,23)

2) No Perfect Righteousness of God (Rom.2:1-3:20)

3) Enemies of God (Rom.5:10)

C. The three major components of our Abomination:

- 1) Servants of Sin (Rom.6:20)
- 2) Dead to Perfect Righteousness (Rom.6:21)
- 3) Followed the Course of This World (Eph.2:1-3)

D. The three major components of our Alienation:

- 1) Gentiles In The Flesh (Eph. 2:11-12)
- 2) Belonging to Satan (Col. 1:12-14 [:13]) - note also Luke 4:5-7
- 3) Good Citizens of Satan’s Kingdom (Eph. 2:1-3)

3. The Mechanical Means of Going From Being “IN ADAM” To Being “IN CHRIST”: BAPTISM

A. Definition: βαπτίζω [baptizo] = to immerse, to be permanently placed into a new environment.

- Baptism, in any program, at any time, is a PURIFICATION unto SANCTIFICATION, that results in a new IDENTIFICATION.

1) PURIFICATION - John 3:22-25 - Matt. 3:5-12 - Israel’s 3-fold prescription for CLEANSING.

2) SANCTIFICATION - Num. 19:1-9, 13, 20, 21 - “the water of separation”
- Heb. 9:9-10, 13-14

3) A NEW IDENTIFICATION
- Rom. 6:1-3; I Cor. 12:12-13; Gal. 3:26-28; Col. 2:11-12

- By that “*operation of God*” baptizing us into Christ, God, in Justifying us, He made us to be the Righteousness of God in Christ; in Sanctifying us, He made us the Holiness of God in Christ; and in Exalting us, He made us the Glory of God in Christ!

B. From the MONIKER OF UNRIGHTEOUSNESS to the MONIKER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS:

- I Cor. 6 - A summary of our Moniker of Unrighteousness (i.e., our OFFENSIVE IDENTIFICATION)
- Our Moniker of Unrighteousness is a moniker we no longer bear!!

(:9-11) - An EXORTATION PASSAGE to not live as they were in Adam!

(:11) - “were” vs. “are” set in contrast.

(:9-10) = the list of “monikers”

- Note all those “er” suffix endings in the English language that are used at the end of nouns as a signifier or identification marker to signify what someone is - it turns that noun into a proper name (a moniker or identification marker)

- Gal.5:24 - “*affections*” = strong trend or a penchant or inclination.

- Your OSN (your flesh by nature) has a penchant or inclination or trend for those things that you are “In Adam”.

- I Cor. 6:12 - note that the flesh has a dominate “*power*”.

- We all used to bear a moniker of unrighteousness, so ICor.6:9-10 tells us that we all need a NAME CHANGE!

- OUR IDENTITY “IN CHRIST” IS OUR FUNCTIONAL LIFE UNTO GOD!

- Therefore, in light of the ICor.6:9-10 passage, and in view of our need of a ‘NAME CHANGE’ or an identity change; the Holy Spirit cleansed (washed) us from all we were “In Adam”.

- In view of the propitiatory sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ in our behalf, and the capacity for God’s Justice to respond for us in connection with our faith in Christ as our all-sufficient Savior, the Spirit of God, in view of that propitiatory sacrifice AND the complete redemption the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished for us, He (the Spirit) was able to wash us from all that former offensive identification “In Adam.” And He gives us a new identification “In Christ.”

4. Our new identification of who we are “In Christ.” (I Cor. 15:22; Phil. 1:1; Phlm.:6)

- Note that when it come to understanding what it means to be “*in Christ*,” most believers have such little grasp on the doctrine that they only think of it in terms of our SANCTIFICATION - little knowing that our Justification and our unique Exaltation is also “*in Christ*” issues.

A. The three major components of being “In Christ”:

1) Justification - (Rom. 5:16,18)

2) Sanctification - (I Cor. 1:2,30)

- In connection with this, note the following vss.: I Cor. 6:11; II Cor. 5:20-21;
I Cor. 3:1-2; I Cor. 2:2, 6-8)

3) Exaltation - (Eph. 1:1-6; Phil. 2:5-11; Eph. 1:18-23; 2:4-7 Rom. 8:30; II Thess. 1:12)

B. The three major components of our Justification:

1) Forgiven Of ALL Sins - (Rom. 3:23-26; Eph. 1:7; Col. 2:13)

2) Imputed With Christ’s Righteousness - (Rom. 3:20-26)

3) Permanent Atonement or Reconciliation - (Rom. 5:1-21[:11])

C. The three major components of our Sanctification:

INTRODUCTION: - Rom. 6:22; I Thess. 3:11-13; 4:1-8; Rom. 12:1

1) Dead to Sin - (Romans 6:2)

2) Alive Unto God - (Romans 6:11)

3) Sons of God - (Romans 8:14-15)

D. The three major components of our Exaltation:

1) One New Man - (Eph. 2:11-15 [:15])

2) Citizens in Christ’s Heavenly Kingdom - (Eph. 2:19; Phil. 3:20; Col. 1:12-13)

3) Heavenly Vocation & Impact - (Eph. 4:1; 3:9-11)