

**CORINTH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**  
**THE BELIEVERS IDENTITY IN CHRIST**

**SCRIPTURE READING:**

<sup>21</sup> Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; <sup>22</sup> Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts” (2 Cor 1:21-22).

**INTRODUCTION:**

- A. “According to D.L. Moody, our “identity in Christ” where a new believer’s identity is found in their righteous, holy, and loved status through Jesus, not in earthly achievements or possessions. Key to this identity is recognizing the exchange at the Cross: Christ took our sinful identity, and we receive His. This understanding frees believers to live for God’s glory, moving past former sins and imperfections toward a new purpose and a heavenly perspective.”
- B. “As Christians, our identity in Christ far transcends our identity in our work. We are children of the living God, fearfully and wonderfully made, and deeply loved by the Father.” – Kenneth BOA
- C. “Our identification with Christ is a powerful truth; we are spiritually united with Jesus in His death, burial, and resurrection. As a result, we are also united with Jesus in His victory. I’m not merely with Jesus on the cross; I have walked out of that empty tomb with Him.” – Adrian Rogers

**Our identity in Christ changes our outlook on life, and how we live our lives. We recognize that Christ became as we are so that we might become as He is.**

- “Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world” (1 John 4:17).

**In Christ, you are ...**

**I. A NEW CREATION (2 Cor 5:17)**

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

- A. **The first step of our identity in Christ is being born again. This means beginning a new life under a new Master who is God ( Father, Son and Holy Spirit).**
- B. **A born again person is a new creation – He will never be the same anymore.**
  - 1. **“Old things are passed away”** - The past way of living, with its sins and mistakes, is gone and no longer have power over the believer.
  - 2. **“Behold, all things are become new”** – The believer’s new life begins with new perspectives, desires, and purposes that are pleasing to God.

## II. A CHILD OF GOD (John 1:12)

“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name” (John 1:12).

**A. To become a child of God requires faith in Jesus Christ, not natural birth or human choice.** Those who accept Christ in faith as the Savior are granted the right to become children of God through being born again of God.

**B. To become a child of God is: By Grace – Through Faith – In Christ Jesus!**

Christ explained the New Birth (Born Again) to Nicodemus (John 3:1-21).

**C. To become a child of God is trusting in the blood of Jesus Christ to cleanse from sin and the restoration of a relationship with God.**

## III. CHOSEN AND HOLY (Eph 1:4)

“According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love” (Eph 1:4).

**A. God “hath chosen us” means that salvation depends totally on God.**

A person cannot save himself. Salvation is unearned, undeserved, and unmerited.

**B. Salvation is by God’s Grace**

It is not of our works. We cannot take credit for our Salvation – It is the Gift of God.

- “<sup>8</sup> For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: <sup>9</sup> Not of works, lest any man should boast” (Eph 2:8-9).

**C. As a result of identifying with Christ, “we should be holy and without blame ...”**

Holy means free from sin and sinful affections, set apart to a sacred use for service to God.

**1. The Believer is to live to Glorify God**

“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God” (1 Cor 10:31).

**2. The Believer is to be Holy – Just like God in all that we do.**

“Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy” (1 Pet 1:16).

We are to be totally dedicated or devoted to God, set aside for His special use. We are to focus on who we are in Christ and not the worldliness of sin. Always trust the Holy Spirit to help you obey God and to give you the power to overcome sin.

## IV. FORGIVEN (1 John 1:9)

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).

**A. We Must Confess Our Sins**

Confess means to acknowledge our faults or sins; it is agreeing with God – God you are right – I am wrong – about sin. A person who denies his sin is deceiving himself (1 John 1:8). He is saying that he does not need Christ to deliver him from his sins.

**B. The Person Who Confesses His Sin Is Forgiven of His Sins**

God forgives the person of the guilt and penalty for his sins. He is pardoned and declared not guilty. God counts the death of Christ as our punishment.

**C. God Cleanses from All Unrighteousness**

God cleanses the person who confesses his sins from all dirt, filth, pollution, and contamination of sin. Jesus is faithful and just to forgive us of our sins.

- **What can wash away my sins, nothing but the blood of Jesus.**  
**What can make me whole again, nothing but the blood of Jesus.**

**V. REDEEMED (1 Cor 1:30; Eph 1:7)**

- “But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption” (1 Cor 1:30).
- “In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace” (Eph 1:7).

**Redeem** – means to buy back, ransom or to deliver from captivity, bondage, or liability by paying an equivalent. To rescue from loss.

**A. Christ Redeemed us from Sin and its Consequences by dying on the Cross and shedding His precious blood.**

**B. The Death and Resurrection of Christ offers us freedom from sin, forgiveness, and the promise of a new, righteous life in relationship with Him.**

**C. Christ Redeemed Us**

- “Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree” (Gal 3:3).

**1. “The Curse of the Law” is death** – the penalty for breaking its commandments.

Christ has delivered those under the law from paying the penalty of death demanded by the law.

**2. Christ redeemed us by dying in our place and on our behalf**

He endured the dreadful wrath of God against sin. The curse of God fell on Christ as our Substitute. He did not become sinful in Himself, but our sins were placed on Him.

- **Redeemed—how I love to proclaim it**

Redeemed—how I love to proclaim it! Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;

Redeemed through His infinite mercy, His child, and forever, I am.

I think of my blessed Redeemer, I think of Him all the day long;

I sing, for I cannot be silent; His love is the theme of my song.

Redeemed, redeemed, Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;

Redeemed, redeemed, His child, and forever, I am.

## **KEY TAKEAWAYS:**

### **A. The Believer's Identity in Christ Begins with being Born Again.**

### **B. Christ Died a Substitutionary Death**

This means that He did in our place to pay the penalty for sin, thus enabling us to be declared righteous – not guilty – By God.

### **C. “No Jesus, No Life – Know Jesus, Know Life” – (Goodreads)**

#### **○ Life refers to Eternal Life**

“And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ.

This is the true God, and eternal life” (1 John 5:20).

## **MEMORY VERSE:**

**“Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost” (Titus 3:5).**

## **CONCLUSION:**

### **A. In Christ, Believers are identified as: A New Creation, A Child of God, Chosen and Holy, Forgiven and Redeemed.**

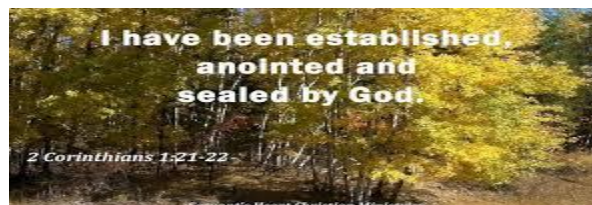
### **B. According to Charles Ryrie, “When we believed in Christ Jesus as Our Substitutionary and Fully Atoning Sacrifice, God transferred us from the Kingdom of Darkness “In Adam” (1 Cor 15:22) into the Kingdom of Light, of His Dear Son, so that now all Believers are seen by the Father as in Christ.” – (Precept Austin)**

- **“For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive” (1 Cor 15:22).**

### **C. Since Jesus Came Into My Heart**

What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought, Since Jesus came into my heart!  
I have light in my soul for which long I have sought, Since Jesus came into my heart!  
Since Jesus came into my heart, Since Jesus came into my heart,  
Floods of joy o'er my soul like the sea billows roll, Since Jesus came into my heart.

### **D. Romans Road (Rom 3:10, 23; 5:8; 10:9, 13)**



From the Teaching Ministry of:  
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**“... the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isa 40:8).**