



Identify in Christ - Scripture Union June 9th, 2024

Once a person becomes born again, he receives a new identity. He has a new ID.

He must live his new life with this new ID as his point of reference and the very thing to show to anyone who questions who they are.

This new ID is **“who they are in Christ.”** They are supposed to see themselves no more by the old ID, but only with the new ID.

Knowing who we are in Christ is one of the major keys to a victorious Christian life and walk.

A lack of thereof is one of the reasons many still struggle. If you are a believer, you need to learn and see yourself in Christ.

The way we see ourselves is what we will be and how we will act. If a person can change their inner image of themselves, they can change how they act.

I heard a story of two young men got lost and they were trying to find direction to where they were supposed to be going. Looking down their way, they saw a decorated army General coming down; they asked him if he knew where they were. The General asked, “Do you know who I am?” They looked at each other and said, “We are in trouble, we don’t know where we are, and this man doesn’t know who he is.”

- One of the most important parts of our Christian life is to know who we are. Not knowing who you are is worse than not knowing where you are.

Therefore, for us to know our new and true identity we have to know what took place and where it took place. The main thing to understanding your new identity in Christ is understanding where this change happened. It did not take place in your physical realm. It did not take place in your soul—emotions, personality, mental (mind), and thoughts.

2 Corinthians 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.*

- a) Once a person is born again, he has a new identity. A new ID of a believer reveals an identity totally contrary to what most people think.
- b) Our identity is one of the most crucial things we have in the physical world and in the spiritual world. We can't neglect it.
- c) When Adam and Eve sinned, they experienced identity theft. Satan deceived them and stole their identity.

a) 2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with uncovered face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image, from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

- i) This verse is stating that we become what we behold. We are changed into that same image. Until a Christian sees himself right, he may never ever overcome sin.

c) 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

- i) Notice how Paul says, "And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God."

- ii) Why is he doing this? He was appealing their new nature and to who these believers were in the Spirit to motivate them and encourage them not to sin like the unbelievers (fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, effeminate, abusers of themselves with mankind, thieves, covetous, drunkards, revilers, extortioners,"

d) Every time Paul dealt with sin in the believer's life (Galatians 3), **he always pointed to who they were in Christ.**

- i) There are certain things we won't do and certain places we won't go because it is not who we are. There are things I just can't do because of who I'm.
- ii) The way you are acting is not who you are. That is not you.
- iii) If you knew, understood, and had a revelation that you were the righteousness of God, then how would you go commit sin? It would be impossible. I do not suck my thumb. Why not? It's because I'm not a child. Only infants suck their thumbs.

These verses detail our new identity.

Section from my teaching on "Identity Theft".

Identity crisis:

- a) Men identifying as women and vice versa.
- b) If we truly know our identity, we won't be having any identity crisis. Many things that the world tries to say about us need to be rejected because it is saying something contrary to who we are.

Your identity is not:

- What you do
- Your job or position
- Your profession
 - We need to separate who we are from what we do.
- Family heritage
- Sex
- Skin color
- Country of origin
- Achievements or success.
- a) A person's physical attraction, looks, or beauty is not who they are. It is not your identity, and you should not wrap your identity in your looks.
- b) Physical beauty is awesome, but it fades. It is temporary. If you do not make the necessary adjustment, you will fall apart once something negative happens to your physical looks or beauty.

- c) It is important to understand the real you. Some believe and others even teach that we are a soul with a body, but the word of God shows that **we are a spirit being with a soul, living in a physical body.**
- a) Ephesians 4:24—New Man, New Spirit, righteous and created in true Holiness.
 - b) Sealed such that no impurities can penetrate—Ephesians 1:13; 2 Corinthians 1:22.
 - c) New creation—2 Corinthians 5:17
 - d) One spirit with the Lord—1 Corinthians 6:17; Romans 8:9, 8:11.
 - e) As He is, so are we in this world -1 John 4:17
 - f) Fruit of the spirit—Gal 5:22-23
 - g) Wisdom, righteous, sanctified and redeemed—1 Corinthians 1:30
 - i) Righteous = Right standing with God. Just as we ought to be. Righteousness is not what you do or look like, but who you are. You are not your body, looks, what you do or your career.
 - h) Eternally redeemed - Hebrews 9:12
 - i) Has the fullness of God—John 1:16. It is full of the presence of God.
 - j) Anointed—2 Corinthians 1:21; 1 John 2:27—Anointing abides in us.
 - k) Complete in Him—Col 2:10—there is no inadequacy in it. We have been given all it takes to live a victorious Christian life in this life. 2 Peter 1:3.
 - l) Always willing—Matthew 26:41
 - m) Perfected forever—Hebrews 10:14, Hebrews 12:23—Spirits of just men made perfect.
 - n) Partaker of the divine nature—2 Peter 1:4
 - o) Knows all things—1 Corinthians 2:16.
 - p) He cannot sin—1 John 3:6; 3:9

