

Who I Am in Christ

The death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ is not just a spiritual “fix” to save us from guilt and the eternal consequence of sin. Jesus was and is delivering us from *actual* sin and depravity with the goal of reestablishing relationship with God, restoring the image of God in us, and reorienting our lives. *This* is the reason for our salvation! In Christ, we have new life and the ability to become what we were created to be – children of God who bear His image and are citizens and ambassadors of His Kingdom.

What God wants us to *do* flows from who we are in Christ *now*, and there’s no ambiguity in the Scriptures regarding our new “in Christ” identity:

We are God’s workmanship created in Christ Jesus to do good works
We are reconciled to God and ministers of reconciliation
We are chosen by God and dearly loved
We are the salt and light of the earth
We are slaves of righteousness
We are more than conquerors
We are redeemed and forgiven
We have the mind of Christ
We are complete in Christ
We are the temple of God
We are saints

It’s critical to our spiritual health and growth that we become in the *natural* who God says we are in the *supernatural*. This requires both *belief* and *application* of biblical truth, which together transform our lives. A transformed life is one that progressively manifests the nature and character of Christ, which is the intended fruit of our salvation (Romans 8:29).

The statements above are *true* statements. They are statements of fact based on Jesus’ complete redemptive work on our behalf. These kind of statements in the Bible are not up for debate, nor is their veracity dependent on how we “feel” about what God says regarding our identity in Christ. Whether or not we believe we are deserving of the statement is irrelevant. It doesn’t even matter how much of our adamic nature is still evident. *What matters is what God says about His holy nature existing inside of us because of what Christ, His Son, did for us on the Cross and in His resurrection and ascension.* The statements are true of every person born of the Spirit through repentance and saving faith because God is the one who says they are true. We do not *make* them true by our belief. They ARE true, whether we believe them or not.

There are two (2) things we need to do in response to what the Bible says about our identity in Christ:

1. Accept His word as truth
2. Live out that truth

Our identity in Christ is not about self-esteem and it doesn’t mean sanctification is no longer required. Who we are in Christ is about conformity to Christ and becoming what God intended for our humanity. As we live out our identity, we become the aroma of Christ (2 Corinthians 2:14-16), which He uses to attract others to Himself.



Additional references to who we are *in Christ*:

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| I am the salt of the earth | Matthew 5:13 |
| I am the light of the world | Matthew 5:14 |
| I am accepted | Romans 15:7 |
| I am Jesus' friend | John 15:5, 14 |
| I am a slave of righteousness | Romans 6:18 |
| I am hidden with Christ in God | Colossians 3:3 |
| I am an expression of the life of Christ | Colossians 3:4 |
| I am an alien and stranger to this world | 1 Peter 2:11 |
| I am an enemy of the Devil | 1 Peter 5:8 |
| I am a prisoner of Christ | Ephesians 3:1; 4:1 |
| I am a son or daughter of the light and not the darkness | 1 Thessalonians 5:5 |
| I am a saint (holy, pure, consecrated) | Colossians 1:2 |
| I am redeemed and forgiven | Colossians 1:14 |
| I am complete in Jesus Christ | Colossians 2:10 |
| I am free from condemnation | Romans 8:1 |
| I am the righteousness of God in Jesus Christ | 2 Corinthians 5:21 |
| I am forgiven of all my sins and washed in the Blood | Ephesians 1:7 |
| I am delivered from the power of darkness | Colossians 1:13 |
| I am a new creation because I am in Christ | 2 Corinthians 5:17 |
| I am chosen of God, holy and dearly loved | Colossians 3:12 |
| I do not have a spirit of fear, but of love, power and a sound mind | 2 Timothy 1:7 |
| I am free from the law of sin and death | Romans 8:2 |
| I am God's co-worker | 1 Corinthians 3:9 |
| I am seated in heavenly places with Christ | Ephesians 2:6 |
| I am chosen to bear fruit | John 15:16 |
| I am one of God's living stones being built up in Christ as a spiritual house | 1 Peter 2:5 |
| I am God's child — born again of the incorruptible seed of the Word of God | 1 Peter 1:23 |
| I am more than a conqueror through Him Who loves me | Romans 8:37 |
| I am an overcomer by the blood of the Lamb and the word of my testimony | Revelation 12:11 |
| I am a partaker of His divine nature | 2 Peter 1:3-4 |
| I am strengthened with all might according to His glorious power | Colossians 1:11 |
| I am holy and without blame before Him in love | Ephesians 1:4 |
| I am a child of God | John 1:12 |
| I am a joint heir with Jesus, sharing His inheritance with Him | Romans 8:17 |
| I am united with God and one spirit with Him | 1 Corinthians 6:17 |
| I am a temple of God, His spirit and his life live in me | 1 Corinthians 6:19 |
| I am a part of the true vine, a channel of Christ's life | John 15:1, 5 |
| I am a member of Christ's body | Ephesians 5:30 |
| I am reconciled to God and a minister of reconciliation | 2 Corinthians 5:18-19 |
| I am a son or daughter of God and one in Christ | Galatians 3:26, 28 |
| I am God's workmanship born anew in Christ to do His work | Ephesians 2:10 |
| I am a fellow citizen with the rest of God's family | Ephesians 2:19 |
| I am a partaker of a heavenly calling | Hebrews 3:1 |
| I am a member of a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation | 1 Peter 2:9-10 |
| I am established, anointed and sealed by God | 2 Corinthians 1:21 |

**We must never forget what it cost God to bring us into union with Himself through Jesus Christ.
It will cost us to become *who we are in Christ*, but that cost is worth it – both now and for eternity.**

