

Who I Am In Christ

The death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ is not just a spiritual “fix” to save us from guilt or the eternal consequence of sin. Jesus delivers us from *actual* sin and depravity now. He reestablishes our relationship with God, restores the image of God in us, and reorients our lives around the Kingdom of God. *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 identity:

We are God’s workmanship created in Christ Jesus to do good works	Ephesians 2:10
We are reconciled to God and ministers of reconciliation	2 Corinthians 5:18-19
We are chosen by God and dearly loved	Colossians 3:12
We are the salt and light of the earth	Matthew 5:13-16
We are slaves of righteousness	Romans 6:15-23
We are more than conquerors	Romans 8:31-39
We are redeemed and forgiven	Ephesians 1:7
We have the mind of Christ	1 Corinthians 2:16
We are complete in Christ	Colossians 2:10
We are the temple of God	1 Peter 2:4-5
We are saints	1 Corinthians 1:2

In order to spiritually *grow*, we must 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’s complete redemptive work on our behalf. These 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. It doesn’t matter how much of our fallen nature is still evident. *What matters is what God says about His holy nature inside of us because of what Jesus did on the Cross and through 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 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, nor does it mean sanctification is not required. Who we are in Christ is about conformity to Christ and becoming who God intended us to be. 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:

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

