

Encourager

Monday, January 29, 2024 • 6:00 p.m.

You are in Christ and Christ is in You

Take Your Place in Christ; Find Your Identity in the Word; Live in the Power and Authority of Christ

As we begin the new year and are hopefully looking with expectancy toward seeing GOD move in mighty ways on our behalf in 2024, i.e., lost loved ones being born again, other prayers being answered, dreams being fulfilled, it is critical to know not only Who GOD is, but also, who God says we are in Christ. Why? GOD will ALWAYS do His part, but we have been given a role to play as well and victory is achieved, not only as GOD does His part (He always does His part), but as we fulfill our role as well. That means we must know who God says we are in Christ and what we can achieve because we are in Him and He is in us.

However, most people will not attempt something unless they have some semblance of belief that they can/will be successful. That is, they must have faith. *Faith begins where the will of GOD is known.* If we do not know who we are in Christ, our faith will be negatively impacted. Where does faith come from? Romans 10: 17 says:

“So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

Let’s go to the Word of GOD to see who GOD says we are and what GOD says we can do. As we meditate on GOD’s Word in this area and obey His Word and the leading of Holy Spirit, we will be able to step into the role the Lord has for each of us – to His great glory and for our good and victory! Something to keep in mind: the Spirit of GOD **ALWAYS** agrees with the Word of GOD.

Below are scriptures that speak to who GOD’s Word says we are in Christ. Please read each one, prayerfully asking the Lord to reveal to you by Holy Spirit what it means for you. Many of us have intellectual knowledge concerning what these passages mean, but we want to go beyond intellectual knowledge alone – to Spirit of GOD-imparted revelation knowledge.

After reading each scripture, please share what you believe the Lord is speaking to you regarding who you are because you are in Christ. Also share why each of these things is important to you as a Christ follower?

1. **Your Current Identity** - **2 Corinthians 5:21**: “For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”
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2. **Your Current Location** - **Ephesians 1:19-21**: “¹⁵Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: ¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, ¹⁸the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the

hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹and what *is* the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power ²⁰which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21*far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

Ephesians 2:4-7: ⁴“But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), ⁶and *raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,* ⁷that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in *His* kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.”

3. **Relationship with Christ –**

John 16:13-15: ¹³“But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. ¹⁴“He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose *it* to you. ¹⁵“All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose *it* to you.”

Romans 8:16-17: ¹⁶The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him*, that we may also be glorified together.

4. **Your Guilt/Condemnation/Shame** –

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

I John 2:1-2: “¹My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ²And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.”

Romans 8:1: “¹*There is* therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.”

5. **Your Power/Authority** –

Luke 10:19: “¹⁹Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.”

Matthew 16:19: "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

John 14:12: “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do, because I go to My Father.”

6. **Holy Spirit in You**

Acts 1:8: “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Romans 8:8: “But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.”

I John 4:4: You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.
