

## The New Person

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

2 Corinthians 5:17 (KJV)

The moment you became a Christian, God gave you a brand-new beginning. Before you were saved, you were dead toward spiritually (Ephesians 2:1). When you got saved, you are made alive spiritually (John 3:6). All your sins have been forgiven in God now view show from all new light. Whether you realize it or not you are forever different. In this lesson you are going to learn that your new life in Jesus Christ has given you a new “identity”. It is your identity in Christ which will liberate you from low self-esteem and negative feelings you have about yourself. A healthy understanding of “Who you are in Christ” will be the foundation stone of your spiritual success.

When someone ask you a question “Who you are?” You might answer that question merely stating your name – “I’m John Doe”. “No, that’s your name, but who are you?” “I’m a computer salesman.” “No, it’s what you do for a living, but who are you?” “I’m an American.” “No, that’s where you live, but who are you?” “I’m a Baptist.” “No, that’s the church you belong to an associate with, but who are you?” We often identify ourselves by what we do, what we belong to, or what association or role we identify with. There is a big difference between “what you do: and “who you are”.

### Who we are determines what we do.

“Who are you” is what you were transformed into spiritually when you accepted Christ into your life, **A child of the living God** (John 1:12).

Friend your spiritual growth and your meaning and fulfillment as a Christian are based on your understanding of who you are—specifically your identity in Christ as a child of God. Your understanding of who you are is a critical foundation for your belief structure and your behavior patterns as a Christian.

### **NEW LIFE BRINGS NEW IDENTITY**

“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a \_\_\_\_\_ nation, a peculiar people; that you should show forth the praises of him who has called you out of the darkness into His marvelous light” 1 Peter 2 :9

When salvation took place in us, the Holy Spirit made His Children all holy nation. This means that salvation is not only a matter of receiving something (eternal life), but it is a matter of **becoming someone**.

To expand on this true Christian isn’t just someone who receives forgiveness, the Holy Spirit, a home in heaven, and a new nature. Rather, a Christian is transformed into someone who did not exist before.

We became the following things when we were saved:

**a child of light** (Ephesians 5:8)...**a citizen of heaven** (Philippians 3:20)...**a saint** (Romans 1:7)...  
**a priest** (1 Peter 2:9)...**a spiritually born child of God** (John 1:12)...**a divine masterpiece!**

Since this is true, it is liability important to realize this invaluable truth:

### God determines who you are and who you are his instrumental in what you will become.

Friend, how do you see yourself? How you perceive yourself will determine what you will become for Jesus Christ.

If you think of yourself as a no good bum, you'll probably live like a no good bum. If you see yourself as a Christian who is defeated, you will not rise above your own self-perception. Perception is reality to us. But if you see yourself as a child of God who is spiritually alive in Christ, you begin to live in victory and freedom as Christ lived.

The most Powerful truth of Christian living, is your identity and position in Christ. Since we are IN Christ, we belong to him.

That which is true of Jesus Christ is true for you. It's part of your identity.

The list below itemizes in first-person language who you really are in Christ. These are the spiritual traits of what you became at salvation:

### Who am I?

- I am the salt of the earth (Matthew 5:13)
- I am the light of the world (Matthew 5:14)
- I am a child of God (John 1:12)
- I am part of the vine, a channel of Christ's life (John 15:1)
- I am Christ's friend (John 15:15)
- I am Chosen and appointed by Christ to bear His fruit (John 15:16)
- I am a slave of righteousness (Romans 6:18)
- I am a slave to God (Romans 6:22)
- I am a child of God; God is my Father (Romans 8:14-15; Galatians 3:26)
- I am a joint –heir with Christ (Romans 8:17)
- I am a temple – a dwelling place of God (1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19)
- I am united to the Lord (1 Corinthians 6:17)
- I am a member of Christ's body (1 Corinthians 12:27; Ephesians 5:30)
- I am a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- I am reconciled to God and a minister of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:18-19)
- I am a saint (Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:2)
- I am God's workmanship (Ephesians 2:10)
- I am a fellow citizen with the saints (( Ephesians 2:19)
- I am a prisoner of Christ (Ephesians 3:1; 4:1)
- I am righteous and holy (Ephesians 4:24)
- I am a citizen of Heaven (Philippians 3:20)
- I am hidden with Christ in God (Colossians 3:3)
- I am an expression of the life Christ because He is my life (Colossians 3:4)
- I am chosen of God, holy and dearly beloved (Colossians 3:12)
- I am a son of light and not of darkness (1 Thessalonians 5:5)
- I am one of God's living stones (1 Peter 2:9)
- I am a member of a chosen race, a royal priesthood (1 Peter 2:9)
- I am an alien and stranger to this world (1 Peter 2:5)
- I am an enemy of the devil (1 Peter 5:8)

One of the best ways for you to grow spiritually is to continue while we remind yourself of WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST. Read the list when you think Satan is trying to deceive you into believing you are a worthless failure. The more you reaffirm who you are in Christ, the more your behavior begins to reflect your true identity.

Friend, the moment you were “in Christ” at salvation, God made some wonderful promises to you. For example:

- A. He promised to “**declare your righteousness**” through the blood of Christ (Romans 4:5, 8)
- B. He promised you **eternal security** (John 10:27-30), which means that you will never lose your salvation (Jude 24)

This is good news and a great assurance to every believer.

There are, however, responsibilities associated with being “in Christ”. Our main responsibility is to follow and obey God’s Word. When we walk with the Lord Jesus, He will empower us to live a fulfilled life. When we disobey Him, we will suffer guilt, grief and God’s discipline (Hebrews 12:6-8) here on earth. God’s grace does not give us the right to disgrace Him through ungodly living. There are consequences to our sin (James 1:14-16). When you disobey the Lord, be diligent act of passing it immediately (1 John 1:9). The following lessons will show you how to follow the Lord and experience an abundant life in Christ.

**Now that you’re a new creation in Jesus Christ, answer the following questions from the Bible:**

1. What are some specific sins that would not be in the lives of a Christian? (Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 4:25, 28, 31; 5:3)
2. How should a Christian look at drinking alcohol? (Proverbs20:1)
3. What does (2 Corinthians 6:17-18) say about unclean things? HOW do Christians avoid them? Can you think of any unclean areas in your life you need to repent top?
4. What kind of things should you think in order to keep your mind cure and sound? (Philippians4:8)
5. What you should ask God to do with your thoughts? (Psalms 139:23-24)
6. How does Jesus Christ feel about soon? Space (Hebrews 1:9)
7. What do we once space 6:1-2; 12-14 say about sinning as a Christian?
8. When you are guilty of sinning, what is it that you should immediately do? (1 John 1:9)
9. What will God do if you do this?

10. According to Romans 6:3-4, what does the believer and now identify himself with.

11. According to Romans 4:8, what does it mean when he says that he will not impute sin to a child of God?

12. According to Jude 24, what is God going to keep us from falling into, if we are “in Christ”?

**The more you reaffirm who you are in Christ, the more your behavior will begin to reflect your true identity.**