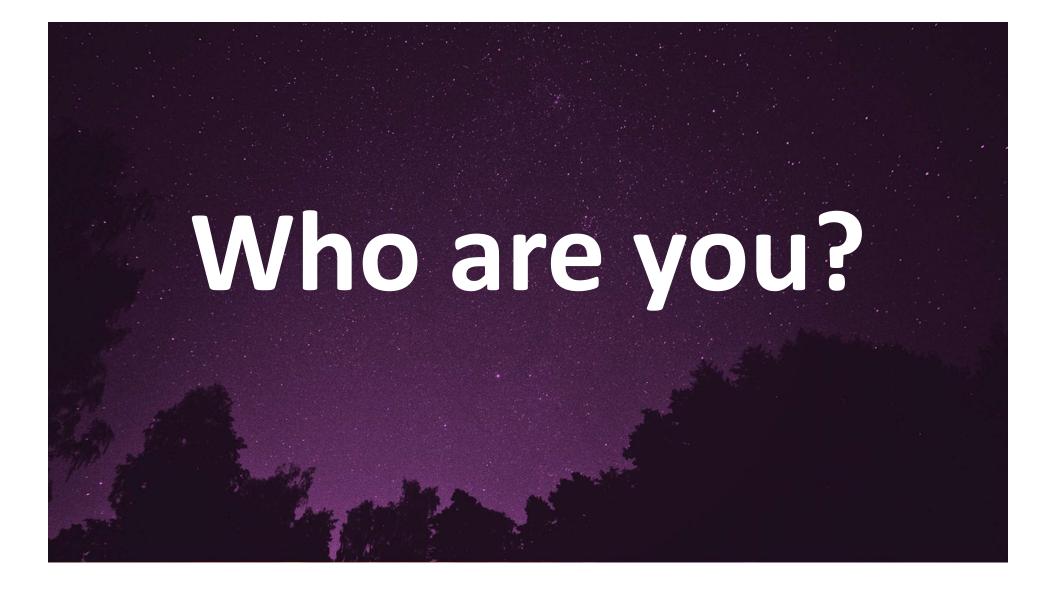


We have discussed the gospel, salvation, redemption, peace, hope, adoption, our eternal security in Christ, deliverance, the image of God, reconciliation, being purified, holy ambassadors for His glory and 5 vital aspects of salvation. Last time we looked at our *Victory in Jesus*...



# What is identity?

A few definitions are, "the state or fact of being the same one as described," or "a condition of being a specified person or thing," or "the distinguishing character or personality of an individual." But the simple definition is:

Our identity is who we really are!

Where or in what or whom do most find our identity? Jesus said in Luke 12:15 - And He said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

Most people find their identity in what they have...

2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. - A new creation or creature, adopted into a new family. The word "new" or kainos in Greek speaks of something new in quality. It has various nuances, but the main idea is a contrast of the old and the "new" that is better because it is different.

### A. John 3:16 - Eternal Life

John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten/one and only Son, that whoever believes on Him shall not perish but have everlasting/eternal life.

John 10:28 - I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of My hand...

# B. Gal. 3:163a & 2 Cor. 3:17 - Freedom Freedom is not the ability to do what you want, but the opportunity to do what is right... Galatians 3:13a - Christ redeemed us (bought us back) from the curse of the Law by becoming a curse for us...

2 Corinthians 3:17 - Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom...

# C. Rom. 8:15 & Gal. 4:6 - Open Communication with God

We come to Him in *prayer* any time for any reason. We don't need to bring a sacrifice or need a priest as in the Old Testament. We can listen to Him. We often forget about that. We can come to our Father and He will hear us. *Romans 8:15* and *Galatians 4:6* say this.

# D. Galatians 2:20 - Loved by God **Galatians 2:20** - I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. 1 John 3:1a - See (Behold), what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God...

# E. 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 - Part of the Body of Christ

1 Corinthians 12:12-14 - For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - Jews or Greeks, slaves or free - and all were made to drink of one Spirit. 14For the body does not consist of one member but of many.

# E. 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 - Part of the Body of Christ

This and other passages say we are saved to be part of a group called the Church or Body of Christ. There are many members or limbs in ONE body, made up of those who have been spiritually baptized by the Spirit of God, adopted into His family and saved by His grace through faith. We are not independent, but interdependent...

# F. Ephesians 2:1 - Spiritually Alive

In *Ephesians 2:1*, Paul talks to the Gentiles and says they were spiritually dead before salvation. *Colossians 2:13* speaks of the same situation, that in the past, those without Christ were spiritually dead, or in active rebellion against God...

- G. 2 Timothy 1:13-14 Indwelt by the Holy Spirit
- 2 Timothy 1:13-14 Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you. The word translated "dwells" can also be translated "at home."

# H. 1 Peter 1:10-25 - Holy

In 1 Peter 1:13-25 you will find that Scripture tells us what God expects of us and how to live the Christian life. It is not by our strength but His that we are commanded to live a holy life. God has declared us holy and tells us to act holy.

### I. Colossians 1:21-23 - Blameless

Colossians 1:21-23 - And you (Gentiles), who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, 22he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, 23if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that

# I. Colossians 1:21-23 - Blameless

you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven...

The word blameless in Greek means something without spot. It was a technical word to designate the absence of a defect in a sacrifice, which would cause it to be unworthy of being offered.

### J. Accts 1:8 - Power

- Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.
- 2 Timothy 1:7 for God gave us a spirit (attitude) not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

### K. Matthew 28:18-20 - His Witnesses

Matthew 18:18-20 - And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age..."

## K. Matthew 28:18-20 - His Witnesses

He has left us here with the Gospel, to proclaim it and live it out in a hostile world. We proclaim the Gospel, people put their faith in Christ and then they grow or mature in Christ.

Will we step up to the challenge; step out in the command; step down in humility; because Christ has stepped in to our lives?