

## ***Your Identity*** by Chris Garner

### ***A New Life in Christ***

Many Christians identify only with the first Adam, the one who failed and was separated from God. As a Christian, you are now identified with the last Adam - Jesus Christ. Originally, you were born in sin, not in Christ. The moment you said yes to Christ, your old self was crucified with Christ and you were born again. You are now spiritually alive.

It is not what you do as a Christian that determines who you are; it's who you are as a Christian that determines who you are, and it is who you are that determines what you do.

Dr. Neil Anderson tells the story of a couple that came to see him for marital counseling. Their marriage was in such bad shape and their view of themselves and each other so wrong that he counseled them to forget about their marriage until they could understand who they were in Christ. They each went off alone and studied the Scriptures and sought the Lord. Six months later, their marriage was better than they could have ever dreamed because they understood their position in God's view. Only then could they be the husband and wife God called them to be.

### ***Who You Really Are***

God does not call you a sinner; He calls you a saint - a holy one. If you think of yourself as a sinner, you'll tend to live like a sinner. Why not identify yourself for who you really are; a saint who occasionally sins? The goal, as a Christian, is to live a life that corresponds to who you are positionally because of what Jesus Christ has done for you.

*But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy ~ 1 Peter 2:9,10*

*Your hope for growth, meaning and fulfillment as a Christian is based on understanding who you are - specifically your identity in Christ as a child of God.*

### ***Who You Are:***

You are a child of God; a saint. No one, not even Satan, can damage your position and identity in Christ. Satan will attempt to deceive you into believing that you are not acceptable to God, but through Christ you are acceptable.

### ***In Christ you are:***

A child of God. ~ John 1:12  
Christ's friend. ~ John 15:15  
A new creation. ~ 2 Corinthians 5:17  
A member of Christ's body. ~ 1 Corinthians 12:27  
A son of God; an heir. ~ Galatians 4:6,7  
A saint. ~ Ephesians 1:1, Philippians 1:1  
Gods workmanship. ~ Ephesians 2:10  
Righteous and holy. ~ Ephesians 4:24  
Born of God. ~ 1 John 5:18  
A partaker of Christ. ~ Hebrews 3:14  
Chosen, holy and dearly loved. ~ Colossians 3:12

***Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! ~ 2 Corinthians 5:17***

### ***Since you are in Christ, by the grace of God:***

You are justified - completely forgiven and made righteous. ~ Romans 5:1  
You are free forever from condemnation. ~ Romans 8:1  
You have the mind of Christ. ~ 1 Corinthians 2:16  
You have been made righteous. ~ 2 Corinthians 5:21  
You have been redeemed and forgiven, and are a recipient of His lavish grace. ~ Ephesians 2:5  
You have been made alive together with Christ. ~ Ephesians 2:5  
You have been redeemed and forgiven of all your sins. The debt against you has been canceled.  
~ Colossians 1:14  
You are firmly rooted in Christ and are now being built in Him. ~ Colossians 2:7  
You have been made complete in Christ. ~ Colossians 2:10  
You have been given a spirit of power, love and self-discipline. ~ 2 Timothy 1:7  
You have been saved and set apart according to God's doing. ~ 2 Timothy 1:9  
You have the right to come boldly before the throne of God to find mercy and grace in time of need. ~ Hebrews 4:16  
You have been given exceedingly great and precious promises by God by which you are a partaker of God's divine nature. ~ 2 Peter 1:4

***It is important that you see yourself for who you really are - a new creation in Jesus Christ.***