

Your New ID | CL Talks Episode 9

Pastor Al Brice | Wednesday, May 20th

When you were born again, confessed Jesus Christ as your Lord, a very unique and special spiritual transformation and promotion took place.

You became a brand new person inside, the Spirit of God came to live permanently inside of you, God gave you a ministry, and you became an ambassador for Jesus Christ. (Ambassador: an accredited diplomat, appointed by the President, and sent to a country as its official representative)

2 Corinthians 5:17-20 NKJV: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

I. Promoted by God

Ephesians 2:4-6 NKJV: But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus...

A. We no longer belong to this world or identify with it.

1. Before we were born again, our identity was wrapped and bound up by this world, it was all we knew. We were striving to be cool 😎, accepted by our peers, desperate to be loved, 🥰 seeking the new thing to do or new fad, 🧐 willing to try anything and everything so we could be included and not rejected and didn't want to be seen or labeled as weird. 🧐

Ephesians 2:1-3 NKJV: And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

a. Why didn't we know better, why couldn't we see this deception?

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 NKJV: But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

b. Jesus delivered us:

Galatians 1:4 NKJV: who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father..

c. We are still in the world but not of it, in it, but free from it. Our identity and outlook is no longer bound or established by the world. Our identity and value is based upon my heavenly position in Christ and His Word. We now have victory, through Jesus, over the world because of our faith in Him and our love for Him.

1 John 5:2-5 NKJV: By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

2. What is now my pursuit, passion, purposes, desires, identity, and vision.

a. To live an overcoming life you must develop your faith.

Romans 12:1 Passion Translation: Beloved friends, what should be our proper response to God's marvelous mercies? I encourage you to surrender yourselves to God to be his sacred, living sacrifices. And live in holiness, experiencing all that delights his heart. For this becomes your genuine expression of worship. Stop imitating the ideals and opinions of the culture around you, but be inwardly transformed by the Holy Spirit through a total reformation of how you think. This will empower you to discern God's will as you live a beautiful life, satisfying and perfect in his eyes.

b. We must make a solid, completely sold out decision to live for Jesus everyday second, minute, hour, and day. No Compromises!!

1 Peter 2:11-12 NLT: Dear friends, I warn you as “temporary residents and foreigners” to keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very souls. Be careful to live properly among your unbelieving neighbors. Then even if they accuse you of doing wrong, they will see your honorable behavior, and they will give honor to God when he judges the world.

Colossians 1:9-12 NKJV: For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.