

Too many people attach who they are with what they do or what they look like

If you don't know who you are <u>in Christ</u> – you will never know what you can do <u>through Christ</u>

The circumstance around you will change – but who you are in Christ remains eternally secure

I AM A CHILD OF GOD.

Principle #1: The <u>Privilege</u> of Being a Child of God

1 John 3:1

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God

"Behold" comes from the Greek word eidō which means in part "to experience any state or condition"

There is not a one of us that deserve to be called a Son of God

Romans 3:10

As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one

Being a child of God has nothing to do with what I have done or who I have been – it has everything to do with what Jesus has done and Who He is

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Romans 8:17

And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ

John 1:12-13

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, [even] to them that believe on his name:

The word "power" comes from the Greek exousia which means the power of authority (influence) and of right (privilege)

13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

Your position as a Son of God is not something that is <u>built</u> – it is something that is <u>birthed</u>

Romans 8:16

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

The Privilege of Authority

Luke 10:19

Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

What Jesus actually said was, "I have given you AUTHORITY to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the POWER of the enemy...."

What is authority?

Authority is delegated power.

Ephesians 6:10

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

1 John 4:4

Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world

I have the authority of the name of Jesus living within me

Matthew 28:18

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth

He is the Head of the Church, and believers make up the Body

- The authority that is in the Head (Christ) flows through the Body (the Church)
- Christ is seated at the right hand of the Father—the right hand is the place of authority—and we're seated with Him

Ephesians 1:20

Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set [him] at his own right hand in the heavenly [places],

... when he raised him from the dead, and set [him] at his own right hand in the heavenly [places],

Ephesians 2:6

And hath raised [us] up together, and made [us] sit together in heavenly [places] in Christ Jesus:

The same power used to resurrect Christ from <u>physical</u> death is what raised us from <u>spiritual</u> death

• In the mind of God, when <u>Jesus</u> was raised from the dead – <u>we</u> were raised from the dead!

Ephesians 2:5-6

Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) 6 And hath raised [us] up together, and made [us] sit together in heavenly [places] in Christ Jesus:

The spiritual authority of the Head (Christ) has been passed down to the Body (the Church)

The Privilege of Access

Ephesians 2:18

For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father

Romans 8:15-17

For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. 16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ

Abba is from the Aramaic language and is the endearing word for Father

Ephesians 3:12

In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.

Hebrews 4:16

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need

Hebrews 4:15

For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as [we are, yet] without sin.

1 John 3:1

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.