

The Place of the Believer in Christ
Ephesians 1:3

Introduction: Identity theft is a \$56,000,000,000.00 dollar a year industry. Because of this, banks, businesses, and the government are always seeking better ways of preserving ones identity. Passwords are having to be made more complex, regular ID cards are no longer valid, more and more documentation is necessary in order to prove you are who you say you are. Even our phones are becoming more and more complex in making sure that only the one with the right identity can access the information. Identity and access go hand in hand. This is true in life and in death. There is only one identity that gives one access both now and in the future to the presence of God. This identity cannot be forged, stolen, earned, substituted, or purchased... it can only be received.

I. Place of new identification (I Corinthians 15:22)

- A. Crucified with Christ- Galatians 2:20-

- B. Buried with Christ- Colossians 2:12

- C. Raised with Christ- Romans 6:4-

- D. Seated with Christ- Ephesians 2:6-
 - 1. Standing-

 - 2. Access-

 - 3. Communion-

II. Place of new associations-

- A. With the Father- Ephesians 2:1-6; John 17:23

- B. With the Son- John 15:1-5

- C. With other believers- Galatians 3:28; Ephesians 2:13; John 17:21-23

- D. With Satan- Romans 6

- E. With the world - John 14:18-19; 17:14

III. Place of new motivation- Galatians 2:20; Romans 6:12-14

- A. Faith not fear-

- B. Grace not law-

- C. Christ not self-

Conclusion: "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in Me and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me."

Questions for discussion/application

- If you were asked to describe what it means to be “in Christ” to a new believer, what would you tell them?
- Discuss the significance of being “seated us with Him in the heavenlies”. Ephesians 2:6
- In what ways have our association with the world changed through our position in Christ?
- In what ways are our associations with other believers impacted by our comprehension of what it means to be in Christ?