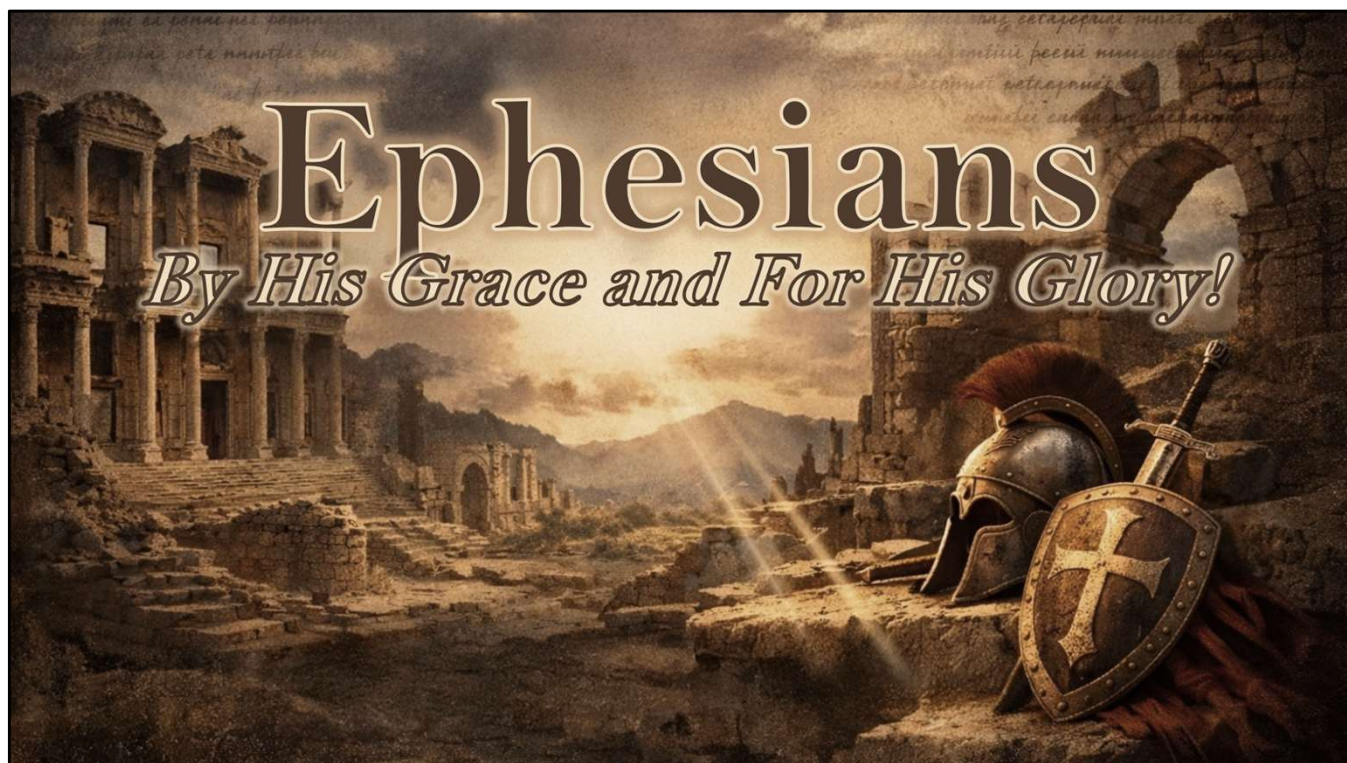




Ephesians

By His Grace and For His Glory!



In Him! “In Christ”!

- Ephesians 1:1-10 -

Eph.1:7-10 In Him! “In Christ”!

Our text this week begins and ends with “In Christ”! What is this expressing?

Do you have any guess how many times the expression “In Christ” is in the New Testament?

What word pictures or bible illustrations might help us understand this?

What is Redemption?

There is an essential doctrine in this passage, what is it?

Eph 1:7-10 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8 which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight 9 making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth in him.

“In” can describe our...

- Our welfare, our location, our occupation, our interests...
- Ephesians alone references “In Christ” 27x
- Ephesians 1:7 – In him we have redemption through his blood....
- Ephesians 1:10 - ...to unite all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth in him.

These “ins” say something about ourselves.

“In” can describe our welfare: We may be in love, in pain, in good health, in dire straits, etc.

“In” can be about our geographic location: We may be in Sydney, or in Nairobi, or in Seoul, or in Colorado Springs, etc.

“In” can relate that we belong to (or are positioned within) an institution or organization: We may be in school, in church, in hospital, in prison, etc.

“In” can tell what occupation we are in: We may be in the army, in “ministry”, in teaching, in banking, etc.

“In” (or more precisely, *into*) can tell what our passions and hobbies are: We may be into golf, into crafts, into astronomy, into music, etc.

Also “In Him”, in the name of Jesus Christ, believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, in our Lord Jesus Christ....

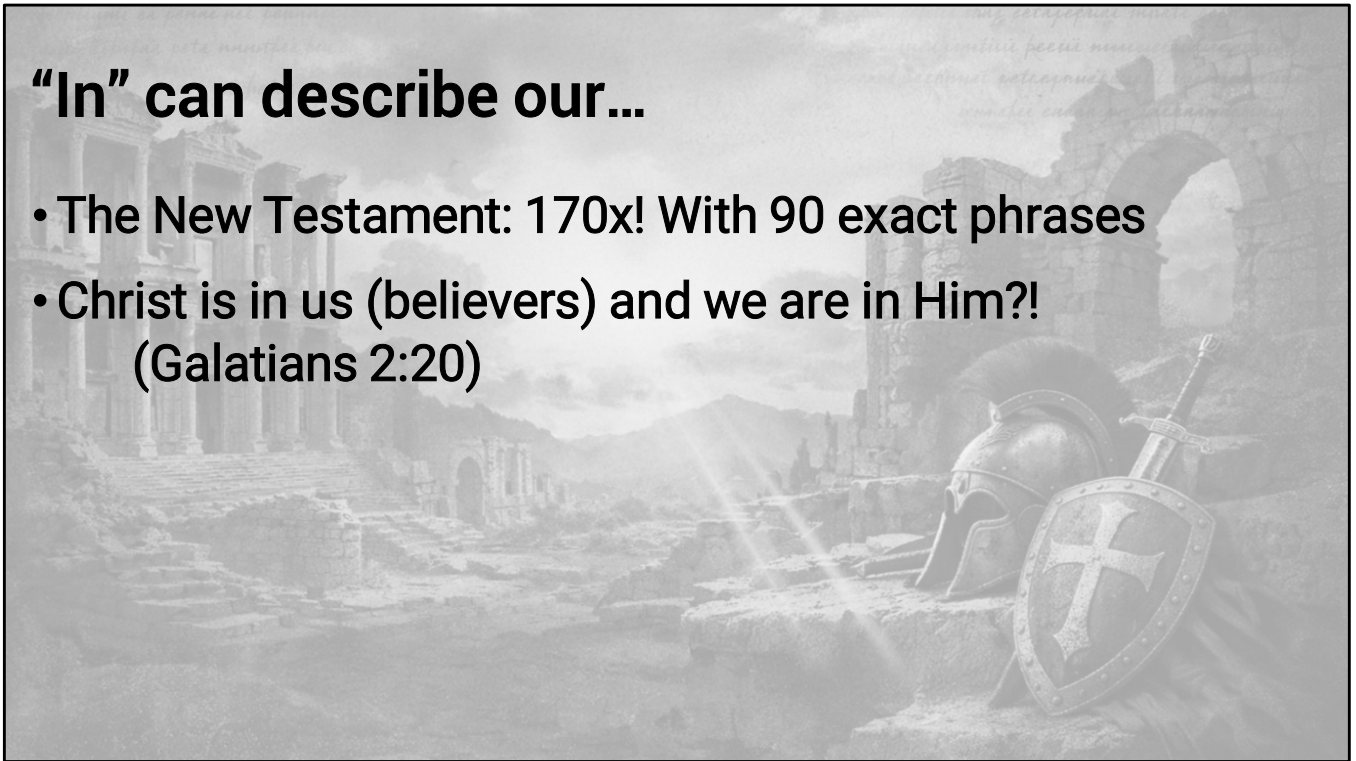
[Rom 8:10 ESV] 10 But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

[2Co 13:5 ESV] 5 Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

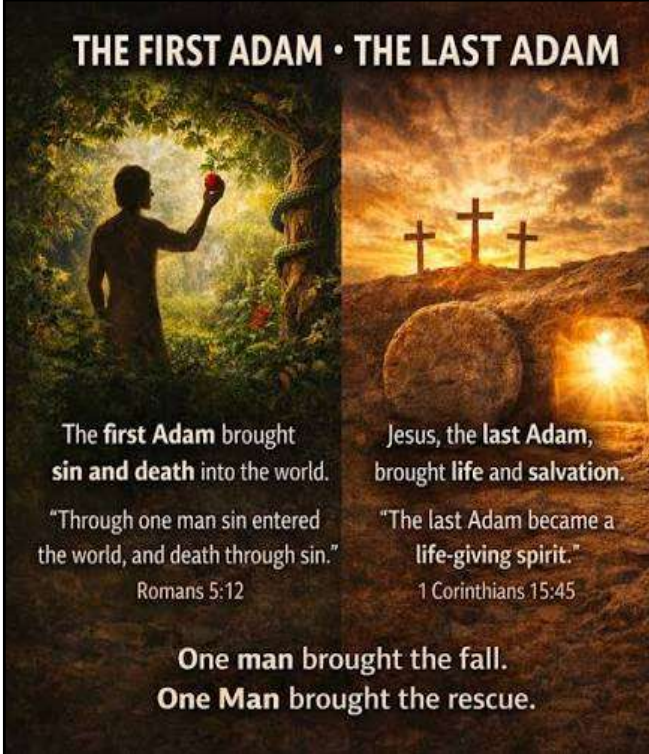
Gal 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

“In” can describe our...

- The New Testament: 170x! With 90 exact phrases
- Christ is in us (believers) and we are in Him?!
(Galatians 2:20)



THE FIRST ADAM • THE LAST ADAM



The first Adam brought sin and death into the world.

"Through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin."

Romans 5:12

Jesus, the last Adam, brought life and salvation.

"The last Adam became a life-giving spirit."

1 Corinthians 15:45

**One man brought the fall.
One Man brought the rescue.**

The First Man and the Last Adam

(1 Corinthians 15:45)

ADAM	CHRIST
<i>The first man</i> (1 Cor. 15:45)	<i>The last Adam</i> (1 Cor. 15:45)
• The first man "Became a living soul" (Gen. 2:7; 1 Cor. 15:45)	• The last Adam "Became a life-giving spirit" (1 Cor. 15:46)
• Natural first (1 Cor. 15:46)	• Spiritual afterward (1 Cor. 15:46)
• From the earth, dust (1 Cor. 15:47)	• From heaven (1 Cor. 15:47)
• Disobedience (Rom. 5:19)	• Obedience (Rom. 5:19)
• Judgment brought condemnation (Rom. 5:16)	• Free gift brought justification (Rom. 5:16)
• Death reigned through one man (Rom. 5:17)	• Grace reigns through one man (Rom. 5:17)
• "In Adam all die" (1 Cor. 15:22)	• "In Christ shall all be made alive" (1 Cor. 15:22)
• Image of dust (1 Cor. 15:48)	• Image of heaven (1 Cor. 15:49)

*"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive."
(1 Corinthians 15:22)*

Before we were in Christ, we were in Adam!

1st Adam and 2nd Adam

Our condition (Spiritual)
Free Gift vs Wages of sin!

[Rom 5:14 ESV] 14 Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

[1Co 15:22 ESV] 22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

[1Co 15:45 ESV] 45 Thus it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

[1Co 15:47 ESV] 47 The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven.

[1Co 15:47 NLT] 47 Adam, the first man, was made from the dust of the earth, while Christ, the second man, came from heaven.

[Rom 5:12-14 ESV] 12 Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned-- 13 for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. 14 Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

Federal Headship

- Adam was our representative (our Progenitor)
- Romans 5:14 – Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come, ...

Are you still in Adam? Or in Christ?!!

Federal Headship

- Romans 5:17 – For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.



Their sin brought Death!
And the establishment of animal sacrifices, a foreshadow of what Only Jesus could
satisfy/Cover/Atone for

Adam and Eve sinned

- Genesis 3:7, 21 – “Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. ... And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.”

In Sin/Shame. In Covering/clothing

[Gen 3:7-12, 20-24 ESV] 7 Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. 8 And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" 10 And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." 11 He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" 12 The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." ... 20 The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. 21 And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them. 22 Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—" 23 therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. 24 He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

[Isa 61:10 ESV] 10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

[Zec 3:4-5 ESV] 4 And the angel said to those who were standing before him, "Remove the filthy garments from him." And to him he said, "Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments." 5 And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So

they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD was standing by.

[Luk 15:22 ESV] 22 But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet.

[Rev 3:18 ESV] 18 I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see.

[Rom 13:14 ESV] 14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

[Gal 3:27 ESV] 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

[Arthur Pink](#) comments on the garments of skin God made for Adam and Eve: "It was the first Gospel sermon, preached by God Himself, not in words but in symbol and action. It was a setting forth of the way by which a sinful creature could return unto and approach his holy Creator. . . . It was a blessed illustration of substitution—the innocent dying in the stead of the guilty" (*Gleanings in Genesis*, ch. 5, § IV, Moody, 1922, p. 44). <https://www.gotquestions.org/garments-of-skin.html>

"Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness" ([Hebrews 9:22](#)).

Adam and Eve sinned

- Isaiah 64:6 – “We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.”
- Isaiah 61:10 - ... “the garments of salvation...”



Put On the Lord Jesus Christ

Wearing the Lifestyle of Jesus Christ in a Dark Day
Romans 13:8-14

Prodigal son “Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him” ([Luke 15:22](#)).

[Rom 13:10, 14 ESV] 10 Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. ... 14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Like the Priests of Israel

Jesus is our Ark

- Genesis 6:13-18 – Everything that is on the earth shall die. But I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark (God's wrath! Noah hidden/Protected)
- Genesis 6:14 – Make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch.

[Gen 6:13-14, 17-18 ESV] 13 And God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth. 14 Make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch. ... 17 For behold, I will bring a flood of waters upon the earth to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life under heaven. Everything that is on the earth shall die. 18 But I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you.

[1Pe 3:18-22 ESV] 18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, 19 in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, 20 because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. 21 Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

The Hebrew word used for "pitch" in Genesis 6:14 is *kaphar* (or *kopher*), which literally means "to cover" and is translated as "atonement" in many other passages of the Old Testament.

<https://www.icr.org/article/9264>

[Heb 10:3-4 ESV] 3 But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. 4 For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

[Rom 5:11 KJV] 11 And not only [so], but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.[G2643]

[2Co 5:18-19 KJV] 18 And all things [are] of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus

Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;[G2643] 19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.[G2643]

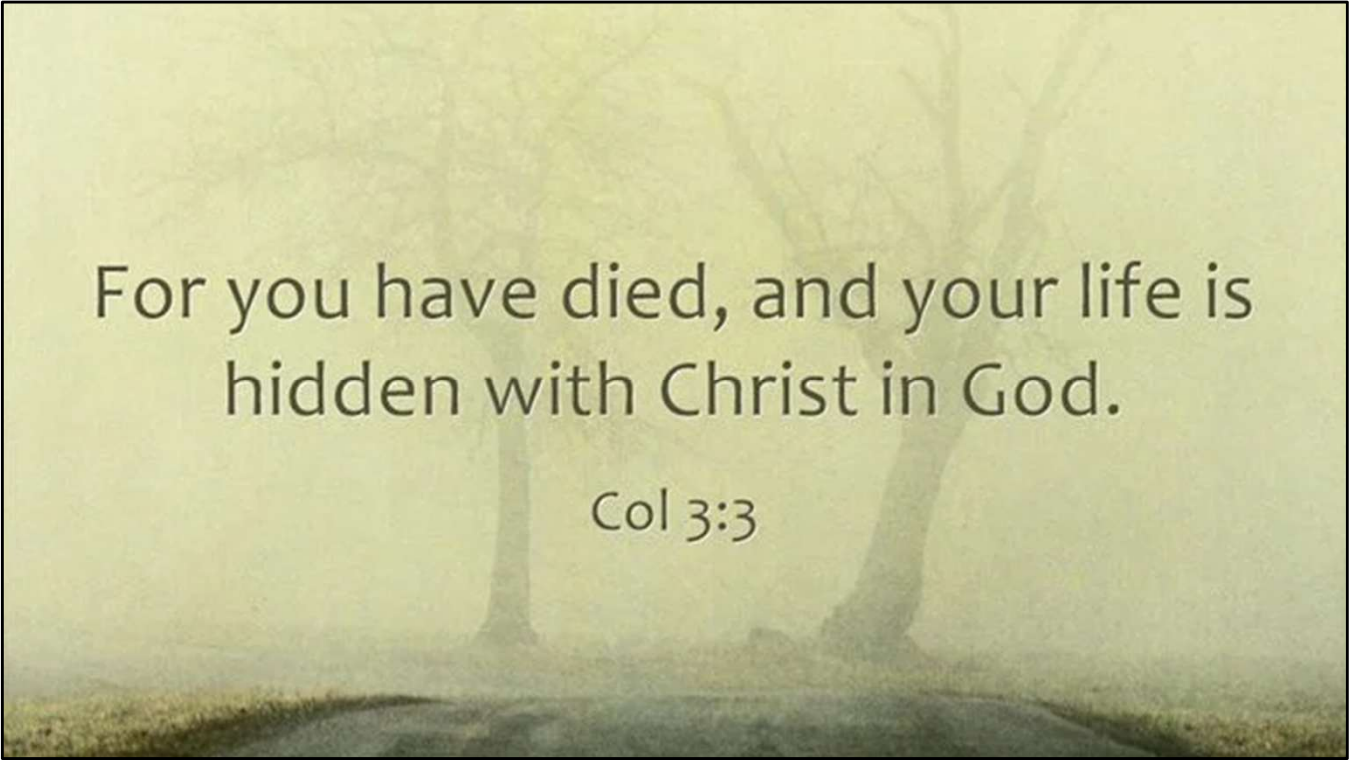
Jesus is our Ark

- Leviticus 17:11 - ...the blood that makes atonement by the life.
- Romans 5:11 (KJV) - ...through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.



[Gen 6:13-14, 17-18 ESV] 13 And God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth. 14 Make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch. ... 17 For behold, I will bring a flood of waters upon the earth to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life under heaven. Everything that is on the earth shall die. 18 But I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you.

[1Pe 3:18-22 ESV] 18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, 19 in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, 20 because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. 21 Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.



For you have died, and your life is
hidden with Christ in God.

Col 3:3

[Col 3:1-4 ESV] 1 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. 3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

[Col 3:5, 8-12 ESV] 5 Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ... 8 But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. 11 Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all. 12 Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience,

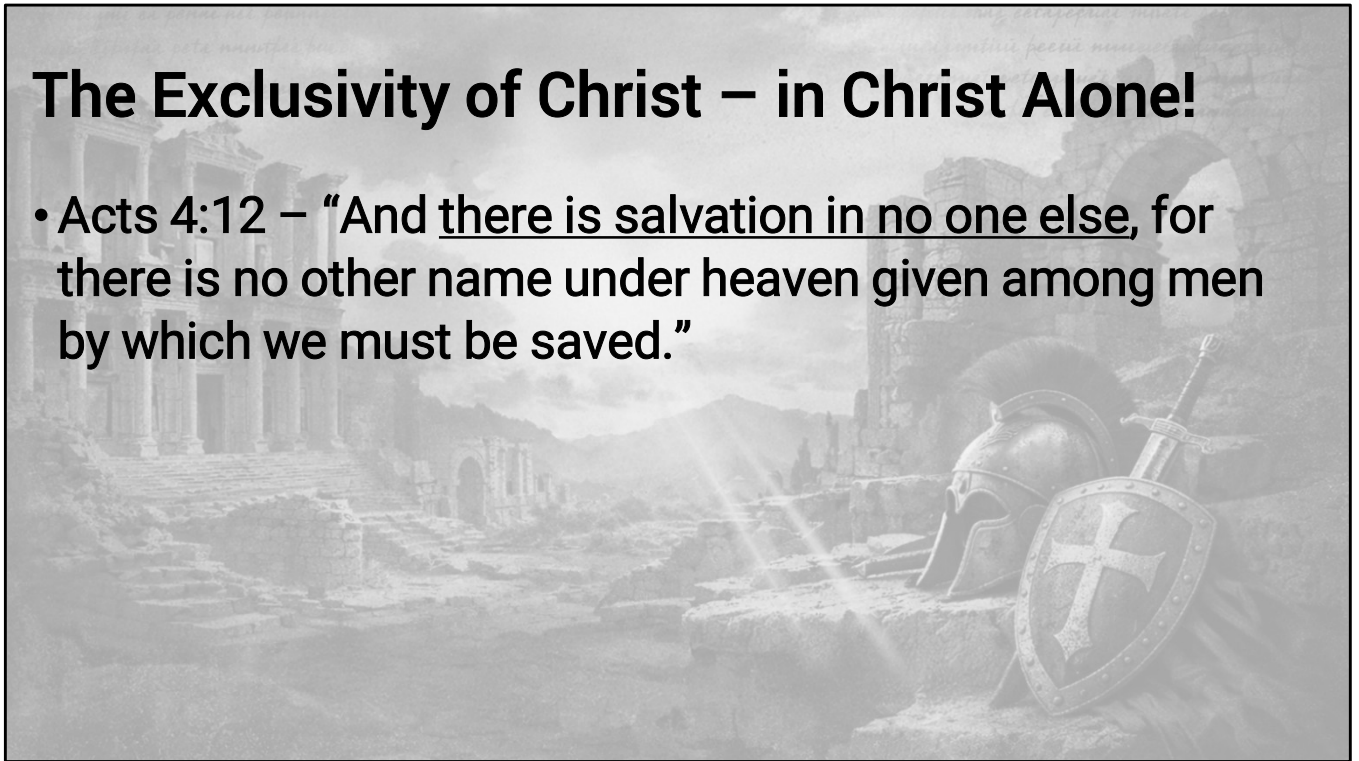
The Exclusivity of Christ – in Christ Alone!

- Ephesians 1:7 – In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace,
- John 14:6 – Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

[Jhn 3:36 ESV] 36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

The Exclusivity of Christ – in Christ Alone!

- Acts 4:12 – “And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”



DEATH
EPH. 2:1 Col. 3:3

BURIAL
COL. 2:12

RESURRECTION
COL. 3:1-3

NEW LIFE
2 COR. 5:17

Illustration used by permission. From *The Journey* by Milt Hughes

WHAT BAPTIZED MEANS

“Baptized” comes from a Greek word that means
“to immerse, to dip, to put under the water.”
(Strong’s Greek G907 – baptizō)

1. INTO THE WATER
 Going down into the water represents our old life and being buried with Christ.

Romans 6:4 KJV
 “Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death...”

2. UNDER THE WATER
 Being under the water shows the death and burial of our old life.

Colossians 2:12 KJV
 “Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God...”

3. UP OUT OF THE WATER
 Coming up out of the water represents a new life in Christ — raised to walk in newness of life.

Romans 6:4 KJV
 “...that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

BAPTISM SYMBOLIZES:

- Death to sin (old life)
- Burial with Christ
- A new life in Christ
- A fresh start and newness of life

Galatians 3:27 KJV
 “For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”

IT MEANS:

- ☒ To immerse
- ☒ To dip
- ☒ To put under the water
- ☒ To completely submerge

IT’S NOT SPRINKLING... IT’S GOING UNDER!

Old Life Buried New Life Risen!

2 Corinthians 5:17 KJV
 “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

BAPTISM IS AN OUTWARD PICTURE OF AN INWARD CHANGE!

[Eph 2:1 ESV] 1 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins

[Col 3:5 ESV] 5 Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

[Col 2:12 ESV] 12 having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.

[Col 3:1-3 ESV] 1 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. 3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

[2Co 5:17 ESV] 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Baptized into Christ

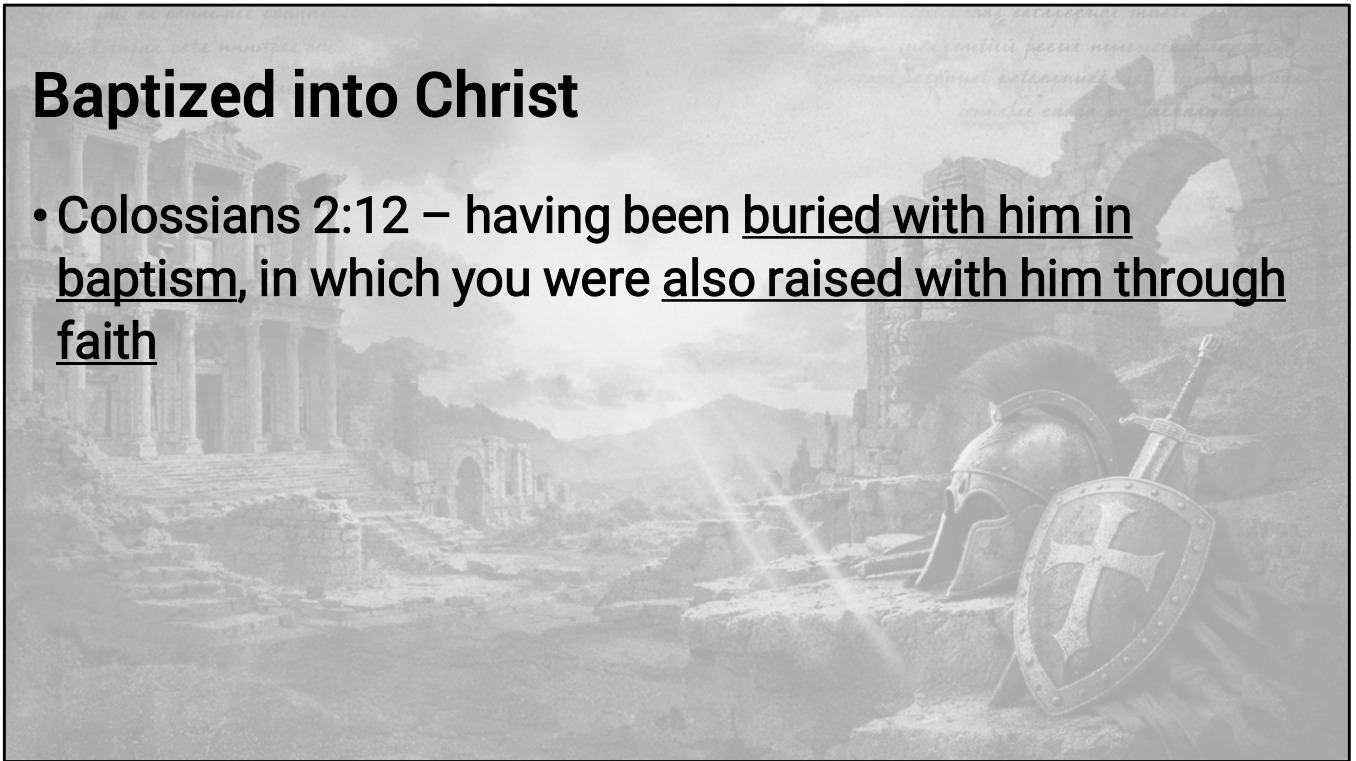
- Romans 6:8 – Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also love with him.
- Romans 6:4 – We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

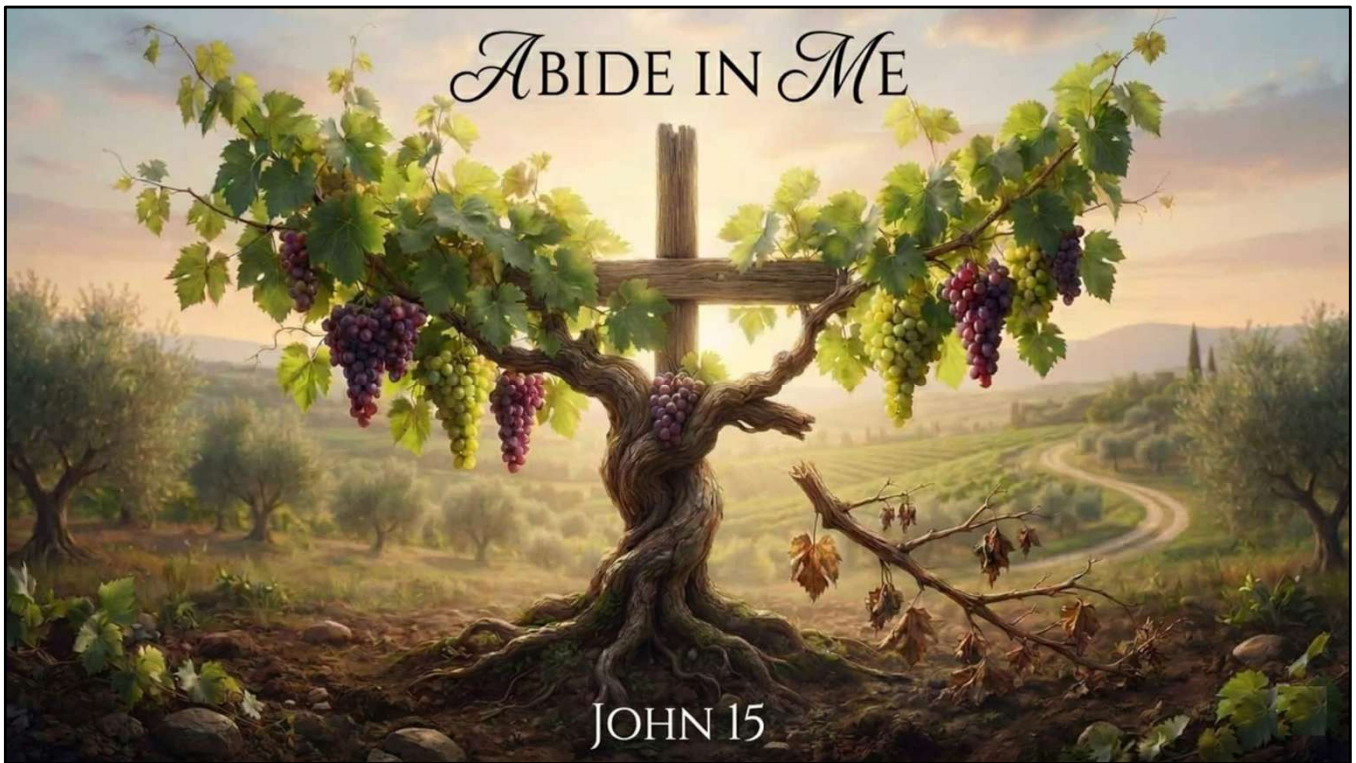
[Rom 6:1-12 ESV] 1 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? 3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. 6 We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. 7 For one who has died has been set free from sin. 8 Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. 9 We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. 10 For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. 11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. 12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions.

[Col 2:12 ESV] 12 having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.

Baptized into Christ

- Colossians 2:12 – having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith





See the cross!!

[Isa 5:1-7 ESV] 1 Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. 2 He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. 3 And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. 4 What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? 5 And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. 6 I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briers and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. 7 For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

Abide IN ME (John 15)

- 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.
- Apart from me you can do nothing.
- Every branch that does bear fruit he prunes
- Bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples
- Abide in my love

[Jhn 15:1-2, 4-13 ESV] 1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ... 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in me, he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. 9 As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. 10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. 11 These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. 12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

Abide – 9x in 6 verses



Made in His Image, yet with uniqueness. Not strangeness.

I am Defined by...redemption...forgiveness

- Someone said they were a “Gay Christian”??
- How about an Adulterous Christian, Corrupt Christian, Murderous Christian, Trans Christian, Pedo Christian...
- True disciples are “in Christ”, He is our Identity!
- Acts 11:26 – and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians.

[Eph 1:7-10 ESV] 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8 which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight 9 making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth in him.

Who i am in CHRiST

Who i am in CHRiST

I am forgiven. (Ephesians 1:7)

I am reconciled with God. (1 Corinthians 6:11)

I am rescued. (Matthew 20:28)

I am redeemed. (Ephesians 1:13-14)

I am bought with a price and belong to God. (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

I am known by God. (Romans 8:16)

I am chosen. (Romans 8:29)

I am justified before God. (Romans 4:24)

I am accepted. (Romans 10:1)

I am saved. (Romans 8:1)

I am alive. (Ephesians 2:13)

I am free. (John 8:36-38)

I am secure. (Romans 8:38, 39)

I am a new creature. (2 Corinthians 5:17, 21:10)

I am born of God. (John 1:12-13)

I am adopted by God. (Romans 8:15)

I am a child of the promise. (Romans 9:8)

I am Jesus' friend. (John 15:15)

I am a citizen of heaven. (Ephesians 2:19)

I am a member of Christ's body. (1 Corinthians 6:19)

I am sealed. (1 Corinthians 1:21)

I am loved. (Romans 8:39)

Who Does God Say I Am? Identity in Christ

Ephesians 1 is packed with truth about who you are in Christ. Here's a printable list you can keep in your Bible, journal with, or pray through daily.

Blessed with every spiritual blessing

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. Ephesians 1:3

Chosen before the foundation of the world

For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. Ephesians 1:4

Adopted as God's child

In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ... Ephesians 1:5

Redeemed and forgiven

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace. Ephesians 1:7

Sealed with the Holy Spirit

When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit... Ephesians 1:13

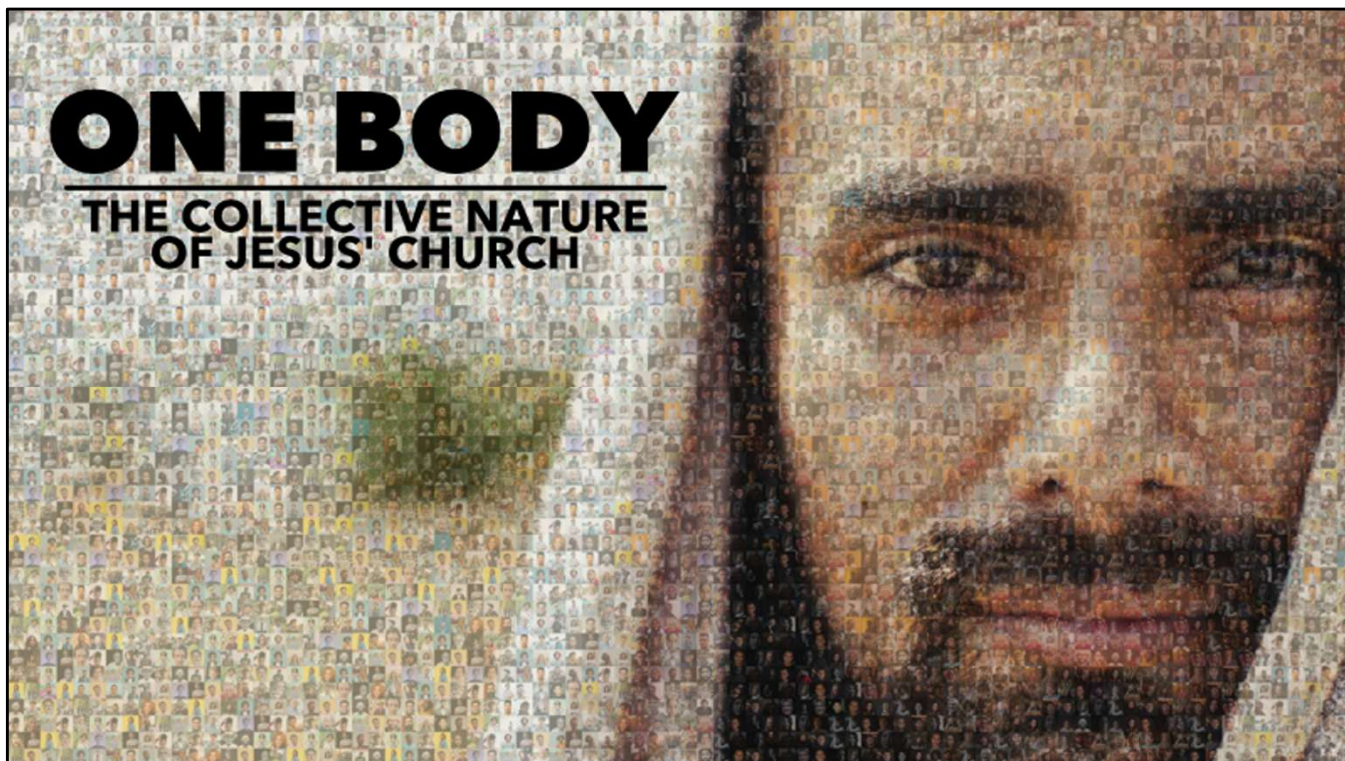
EPHESIANS

EXPERIENCE GOD'S POWER

In Christ

- Instead of in Adam
- In Christ's lamb's skin, clothed in righteousness. Put on!
- In Christ, our Ark!
- In Christ Alone! Solus Christus! All our eggs in 1 basket!
- In Baptism...In Christ...Resurrected with Him!
- In Jesus, the Vine! Abide!
- The Body of Christ!

Symbolically/Representatively, Metaphorically
Spiritually!



This picture is made up of MANY individual pics of people

[Eph 1:10 ESV] 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth in him.

[Eph 3:6 ESV] 6 This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

[Col 1:18-19, 24 ESV] 18 And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ... 24 Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church,

[Col 2:6-7, 9, 12 ESV] 6 Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, 7 rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. ... 9 For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ... 12 having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.

Buried With Him In Baptism

"There we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in the newness of life"

Romans 6:4

"For as many of you have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ"

Galatians 3:27

"And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days"

Acts 10:48

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned"

Mark 16:16

Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

John 3:5

"When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus."

Acts 19:5

"And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord."

Acts 22:16

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

Mattt 28:19

"The Peter said unto them, Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the Remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

Acts 2:38

"And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. And when they were come out of the water..."

Acts 8:38-39

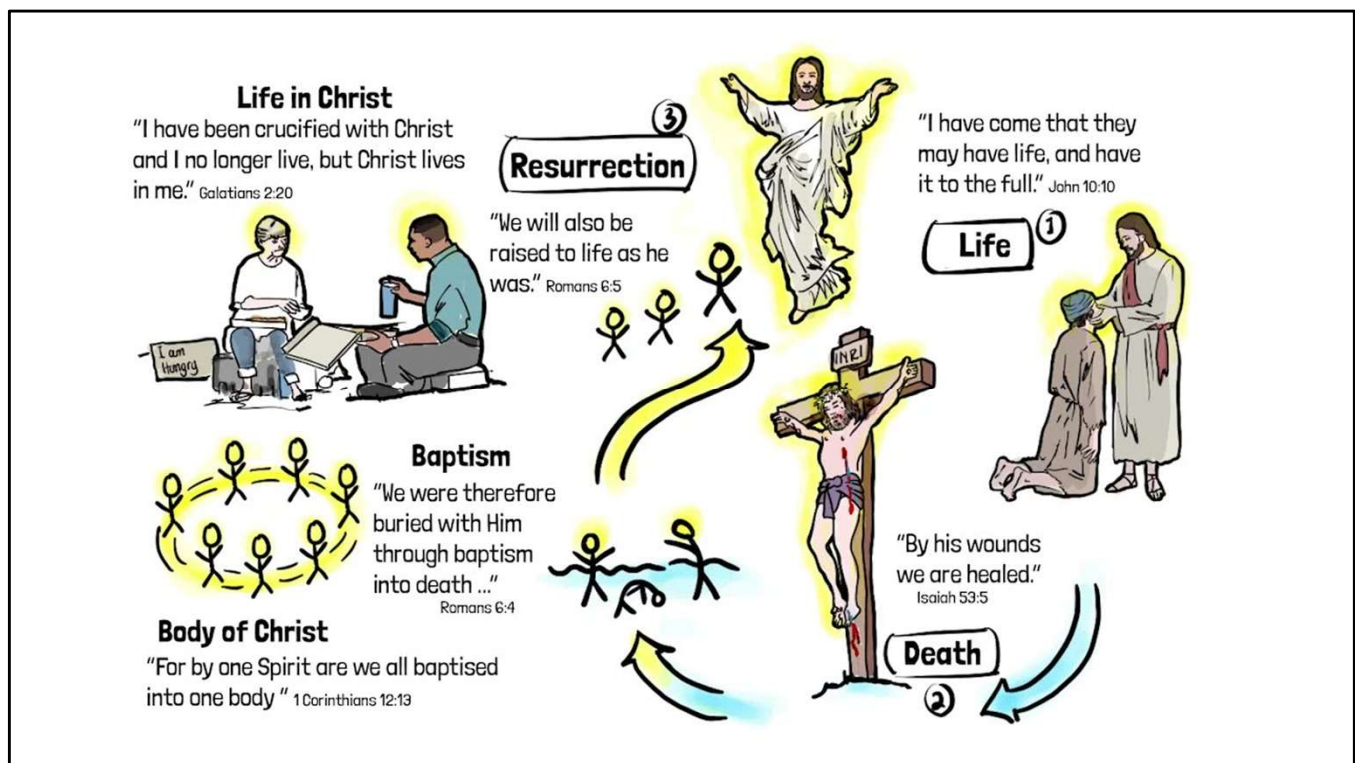
"For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)"

Acts 8:16

How? Immersion in the name of Jesus Christ

Who? Every New Testament believer was baptized in the name of Jesus





[Gal 2:20 ESV] 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.

[Rom 6:4 ESV] 4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

[1Co 12:13 ESV] 13 For 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.

[Rom 6:5 ESV] 5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

[Jhn 10:10 ESV] 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

[Isa 53:5 ESV] 5 But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

EPHESIANS

IDENTITY



SAVED BY
GRACE

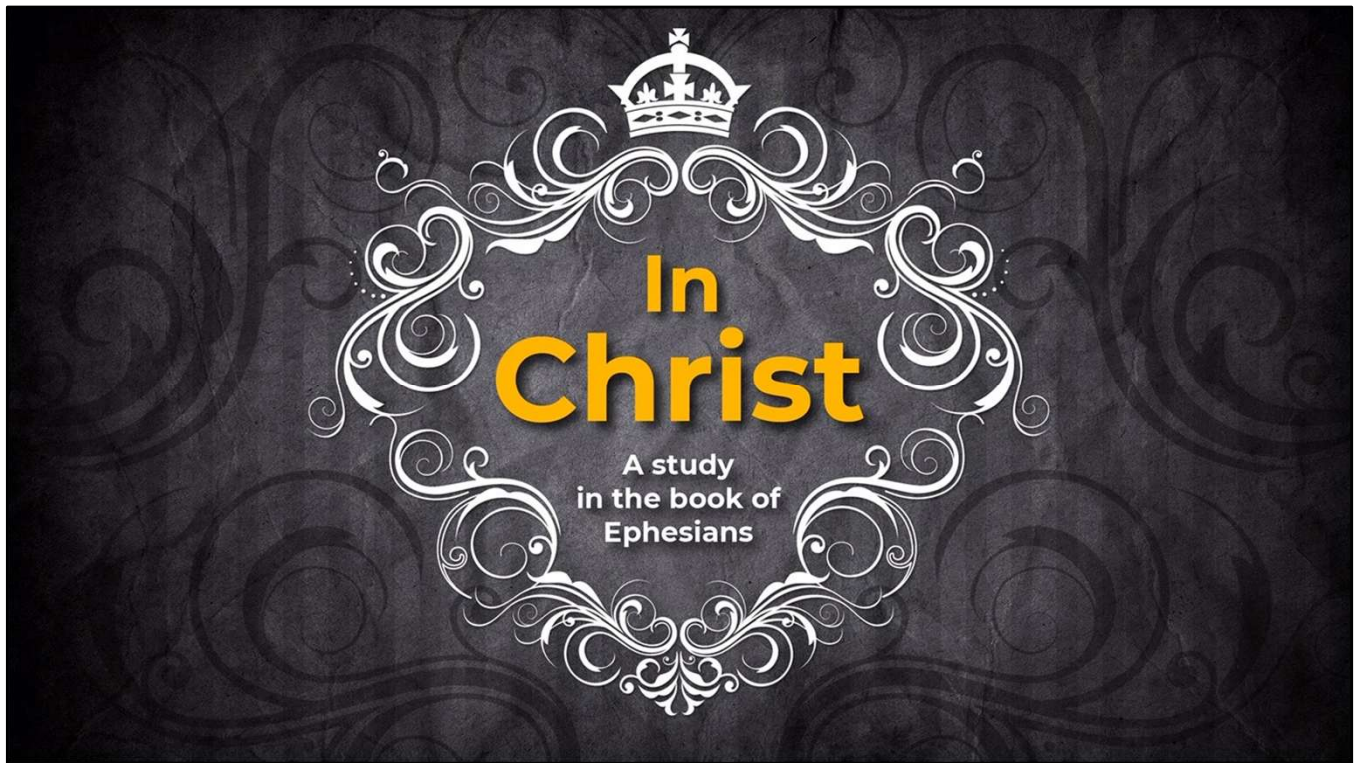


UNITED IN
CHRIST



TRANSFORMED TO
REFLECT HIM







IDENTITY

WHO AM I IN CHRIST?

Jesus Died
1 Corinthians 15:1-3



DEATH

1

REPENTANCE



We Must "Die"
Romans 6:2

Jesus was Buried
1 Corinthians 15:4



BURIAL

2

BAPTISM



We Must Be "Buried"
Romans 6:3-4

Jesus Rose Again
1 Corinthians 15:4



RESURRECTION

3

HOLY GHOST



We Must "Rise Again"
Romans 6:4-8;2

A painting of Noah's Ark, depicted as a large wooden ark-shaped ship with a ramp at the rear, sailing on a turbulent, stormy sea. The sky is dark and cloudy, and the water is a mix of deep blue and white-capped waves. The ark is shown from a side-on perspective, moving towards the right. The text "A Symbol of Christ?" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font, with the word "Symbol" highlighted in a black rectangular box.

A Symbol of Christ?

WHY YOUR POSITION IS IN CHRIST

KEY TRUTH
OUR POSITION DETERMINES OUR PRACTICE.
DOCTRINE PRECEDES CONDUCT.

YOUR STANDING IS NOT BASED ON YOUR PERFORMANCE. IT IS BASED ON YOUR POSITION IN CHRIST.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."
2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

WE ARE IN CHRIST
✓ Our identity is in Him.
✓ Our acceptance is in Him.
✓ Our righteousness is in Him.
✓ Our security is in Him.
✓ Our future is in Him.

1 WHAT DOES "IN CHRIST" MEAN?
Before salvation, we were in Adam. After salvation, God places us in Christ. Our new position is by God's grace, not by our works.
ROMANS 5:12

2 YOUR POSITION IS THE RESULT OF GOD'S WORK
We did not earn our position in Christ. The Holy Spirit baptizes us into the Body of Christ. We are made to bring glory to God.
1 CORINTHIANS 12:13

3 YOU ARE A NEW CREATURE
In Christ, you are not improved. You are made brand new. Old things are passed away. All things are become new.
2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

4 YOU ARE ACCEPTED IN CHRIST
God has made us accepted in His Beloved. Our acceptance is not based on our righteousness, but on His grace.
EPHESIANS 1:6

5 YOU HAVE BEEN JUSTIFIED
Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
ROMANS 5:1

6 YOU ARE COMPLETE IN CHRIST
You lack nothing. Christ is sufficient. You are complete in Him.
COLOSSIANS 2:10

7 YOU ARE BLESSED IN HEAVENLY PLACES
God has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.
EPHESIANS 1:3

8 YOU ARE SEALED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT
After we believed, we were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise.
EPHESIANS 1:13

DOCTRINE WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST
"I therefore... beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called."
EPHESIANS 4:1

CONDUCT FOLLOWS IDENTITY. SERVICE FOLLOWS GRACE. OBEDIENCE FOLLOWS SALVATION.

9 YOUR POSITION GIVES YOU CONFIDENCE
There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus... We are not accepted one day and rejected the next. Our standing is secure because we are in Christ.
ROMANS 8:1

10 YOUR POSITION IS HEAVENLY
And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus... Our citizenship is in heaven. Our Messing are in heavenly places. Our life is hid with Christ in God. Our hope is heavenly.
EPHESIANS 2:6

WHY THIS TRUTH MATTERS
✓ It removes uncertainty.
✓ It strengthens assurance.
✓ It produces gratitude.
✓ It motivates holy living.
✓ It keeps our eyes on eternity.
✓ It rests on what God's grace is our foundation.
YOU DON'T SERVE TO GAIN ACCEPTANCE. YOU SERVE BECAUSE YOU ARE ALREADY ACCEPTED IN CHRIST!

OUR POSITION IS NOT BASED ON OUR PAST, OUR FEELINGS, OR OUR PERFORMANCE. OUR POSITION IS BASED ON CHRIST ALONE.

IN CHRIST, YOU ARE...
ACCEPTED (ROMANS 8:1) ACCEPTED (EPHESIANS 1:6) COMPLETE (COLOSSIANS 2:10) SEALED (EPHESIANS 1:13) IN THE BODY OF CHRIST (1 CORINTHIANS 12:13) SEATED IN HEAVENLY PLACES (EPHESIANS 1:3)

THEREFORE, STAND FIRM IN THE TRUTH. WALK WORTHY OF WHAT GOD HAS MADE YOU IN CHRIST.
COLOSSIANS 1:10

STOP TRYING TO EARN. START LIVING FROM WHAT CHRIST HAS DONE!
YOUR POSITION IS IN CHRIST—FOREVER SECURE!

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."
2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

SEEN THROUGH CHRIST HOW GOD SEES YOU IN CHRIST

"THEREFORE IF ANY MAN BE IN CHRIST, HE IS A NEW CREATURE: OLD THINGS ARE PASSED AWAY; BEHOLD, ALL THINGS ARE BECOME NEW."
2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

YOUR IDENTITY IS NOT IN YOUR PAST, BUT IN HIS GRACE.

1 GOD SEES YOU AS JUSTIFIED
He declares you righteous through faith in Jesus Christ. Not because of works, but because of His righteousness.
ROMANS 5:1

2 GOD SEES YOU AS ACCEPTED
You are accepted in the Beloved. You do not need to earn what God has already given you through His Son.
EPHESIANS 1:6

3 GOD SEES YOU AS REDEEMED
You are redeemed by His blood. You are not under the penalty of sin. You belong to Him.
EPHESIANS 1:7

4 GOD SEES YOU AS BLESSED
You have been blessed with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.
EPHESIANS 1:3

5 GOD SEES YOU AS COMPLETE
You lack nothing in Christ. Your completeness is not in yourself, but in Him.
COLOSSIANS 2:10

6 GOD SEES YOU AS SEALED
The Holy Spirit is God's seal of ownership in your life. You are secure in Him.
EPHESIANS 1:13

7 GOD SEES YOU AS A MEMBER OF CHRIST'S BODY
You are not alone. You are a vital part of the Body of Christ, with Christ as your Head.
1 CORINTHIANS 12:13, 27

8 GOD SEES YOU AS HIS WORKMANSHIP
You are God's masterpiece, created in Christ Jesus for good works.
EPHESIANS 2:10

9 GOD SEES YOU AS A CITIZEN OF HEAVEN
Your true citizenship is in heaven. Your hope and future are found in Christ.
PHILIPPIANS 3:20

10 GOD SEES YOU AS HIS CHILD
You are not a servant only, but a son. You have an inheritance through Christ.
ROMANS 8:16-17

FOR BY ONE SPIRIT ARE WE ALL BAPTIZED INTO ONE BODY... AND HAVE BEEN ALL MADE TO DRINK INTO ONE SPIRIT.
1 CORINTHIANS 12:13

GOD NO LONGER SEES YOU...
✗ THROUGH YOUR SINS (ROMANS 8:1)
✗ THROUGH YOUR FAILURES (2 CORINTHIANS 5:17)
✗ THROUGH YOUR PAST (GALATIANS 2:20)
✗ THROUGH CONDEMNATION (ROMANS 8:1)
✗ THROUGH THE LAW (GALATIANS 3:24-25)

BUT HE SEES YOU THROUGH CHRIST!
✓ THROUGH HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS (1 CORINTHIANS 1:30)
✓ THROUGH HIS GRACE (EPHESIANS 2:8-9)
✓ THROUGH HIS BLOOD (COLOSSIANS 1:14)
✓ THROUGH HIS FINISHED WORK (HEBREWS 10:10-12, 14)
✓ THROUGH HIS PROMISES (2 TIMOTHY 1:1)

LIVE ACCORDING TO HOW GOD SEES YOU!
WALK IN ASSURANCE OF YOUR SALVATION
REST IN HIS GRACE, NOT IN YOURSELF
SERVE WITH GRATITUDE AND JOY
KEEP YOUR EYES ON THINGS ABOVE (COLOSSIANS 3:1-2)

YOUR IDENTITY IS SECURE IN CHRIST ALONE
God sees you as His child, forgiven, accepted, complete, and secure in Christ. This is not your opinion—this is His Word. Believe what God says about you and live in the freedom of His grace!

"I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHICH STRENGTHEN ME"
PHILIPPIANS 4:13

SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY
ROMANS 5:1-2
ROMANS 8:1
ROMANS 8:16-17
1 CORINTHIANS 1:30
1 CORINTHIANS 12:13
1 CORINTHIANS 12:27
2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-21
GALATIANS 2:20
GALATIANS 3:26-29
EPHESIANS 1:3-7
EPHESIANS 1:13-14
EPHESIANS 2:8-10
PHILIPPIANS 3:20-21
COLOSSIANS 2:10
COLOSSIANS 3:1-4
2 TIMOTHY 1:9

THANKS BE UNTO GOD, WHICH GIVETH US THE VICTORY THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.
1 CORINTHIANS 15:57

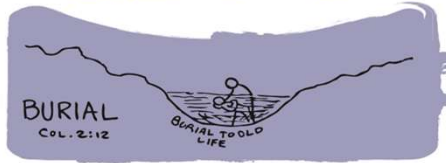


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Truth Seekers

EPHESIANS

LIVING FROM WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ."
EPHESIANS 1:3

INTRODUCTION

Ephesians is not just about going to heaven someday. It is about learning **who we are in Christ** and living accordingly every day.

THE MAIN THEME

CHAPTERS 1-3
WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST
OUR POSITION

POSITION BEFORE PRACTICE

CHAPTERS 4-6
HOW WE LIVE BECAUSE WE ARE IN CHRIST
OUR PRACTICE

Christian living always flows from Christian identity.

THE BEAUTIFUL PATTERN

SIT • WALK • STAND

SIT

Chapters 1-3
Rest is what Christ has done.

WALK

Chapters 4-5
Live out your faith.

STAND

Chapter 6
Fight spiritual battles.

You don't begin by fighting. You don't begin by working.
You begin by resting in Christ.

WHY EPHESIANS IS SO IMPORTANT

1. OUR EXALTED POSITION IN CHRIST

We are blessed, chosen, redeemed, forgiven, adopted, sealed, and accepted. We don't earn them. We receive them through Christ.

2. THE CHURCH IS CHRIST'S BODY

Not simply a local congregation, but the universal body of Christ. Every believer belongs. Christ is the Head.

3. LIVE LIKE WHO YOU ALREADY ARE

Walk worthy. Walk in love. Walk in light. Walk wisely. Stand against the enemy.

THE SEVEN SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS

EPHESIANS 1

1 CHOOSE

2 PREDESTINED FOR ADOPTION

3 ACCEPTED IN CHRIST

4 REDEEMED

5 FORGIVEN

6 INHERITANCE

7 SEATED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Everything needed for salvation is already provided.

THE SEVEN UNITIES

EPHESIANS 4:4-6

1 ONE BODY

2 ONE SPIRIT

3 ONE HOPE

4 ONE LORD

5 ONE FAITH

6 ONE BAPTISM

7 ONE GOD AND FATHER

Unity is not something we create.
It already exists in Christ.

WALK WORTHY

EPHESIANS 4:1

"Walk worthy of the calling with which you were called."

THE ARMOR OF GOD

EPHESIANS 6

1. BELT OF TRUTH

2. BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

3. SHOES OF PEACE

4. SHIELD OF FAITH

5. HELMET OF SALVATION

6. SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

7. PRAYER

You are fully equipped for victory!

CHALLENGE FOR THE WEEK

Read all six chapters of Ephesians. Look for three key words:

SIT
Rest in Christ

WALK
Live for Christ

STAND
Fight for Christ

Ask yourself each day:
"Am I living from my identity in Christ, or am I trying to earn what Christ has already given me?"