

TRUE IDENTITY

A Deep Dive Into The Book Of Ephesians

EPHESIANS 1:1-2 FOUNDATION

3

1 Peter 2:4–8

As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

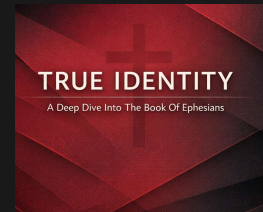
“The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,”
and

“A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.”
They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

4

Ephesians 1:1–2

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

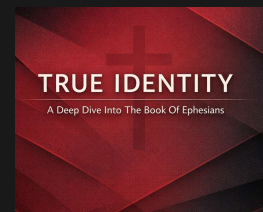


5

REDIRECTED

Consider A Personal Testimony

- An attempt to do for God
- Paul aka Saul of Tarsus
- Trained in Judaism to become a Pharisee
 - Well known teacher - Gamaliel
 - Words of wisdom concerning opposing God or man - Acts 5:33-42
 - Well known and respected
- Strictly taught the law as a Pharisee

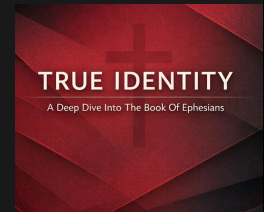


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REDIRECTED

Consider A Personal Testimony Misdirected Zeal

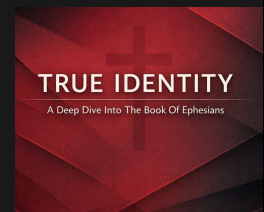
- Blameless according to the law
 - Passionately attempting to stop the church
 - Against his teacher's words of wisdom
 - His hatred grew stronger for believers
- Philippians 3:4–6



7

Philippians 3:4–6

... though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.



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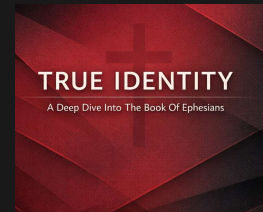
REDIRECTED

Consider A Personal Testimony

Misdirected Zeal

More Than Words... Actions

- Approval of Stephen's martyred – Acts 7:58
- Ravaged the church – Acts 8:1-3
 - God scattered believers to fulfill the Great Commission
- Goal – ending “The Way” in Damascus



9

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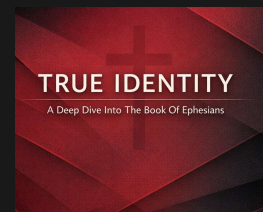
Consider A Personal Testimony

Misdirected Zeal

More Than Words... Actions

But God...

- Salvation - recognizing Jesus as the Son of God
- Forgiveness – repenting, turning away to follow God's will
- Calling – purpose recognized
 - To the Gentiles
 - To the ends of the earth



10

REDIRECTED

Consider A Personal Testimony

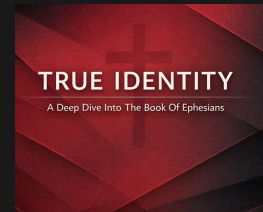
Misdirected Zeal

More Than Words... Actions

But God...

An Apostle of Christ Jesus

- Witnessing the bodily resurrected Christ Jesus
- Called to bear testimony of Christ Jesus
- Zeal for killing the church to building the church



11

REDIRECTED

Consider A Personal Testimony

Misdirected Zeal

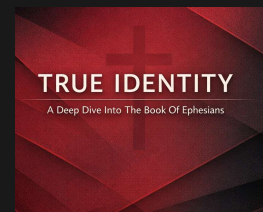
More Than Words... Actions

But God...

An Apostle of Christ Jesus

According To The Will Of God

- Perfect
- Trusted
- Designed
- Discoverable

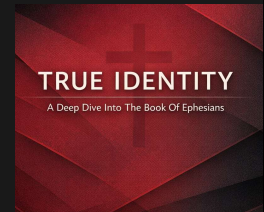


12

REDEEMED

More Than A Title

- “Saints”
 - Believers in Christ Jesus
 - True follower of Christ
 - Not a title given by the church

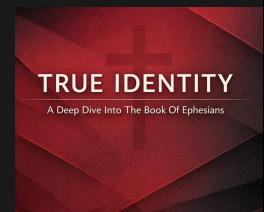


13

REDEEMED

More Than A Title

- “Saints”
- Ephesus
 - Started at the end of Paul’s Second Missionary Journey (Acts 18:19-21) – 51AD
 - Return during the Paul’s Third Missionary Journey (Acts 19)
 - Two year stay and ministry – 52AD-55AD
 - From Ephesus and beyond



14

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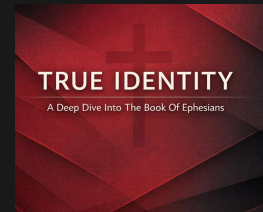
More Than A Title

Faithful

- In Christ Jesus
- Fulfilling the command

Acts 19:10

This continued for two years, so that all the residents of Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks.



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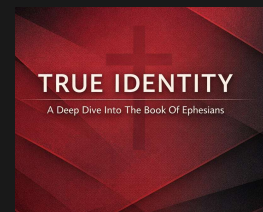
REDEEMED

More Than A Title

Faithful

Foundation Importance

- Reasoning and teaching
- Miracles
- Demonic opposition
- Abandonment of false gods
- Massive city-wide riot

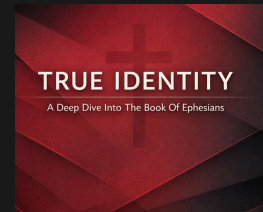


16

REDEEMER

Grace

- Undeserved – not asked for or demanded
- Salvation through grace
- Structure of the church through grace
- Grace is from God
- Continue to remember grace is through Christ Jesus



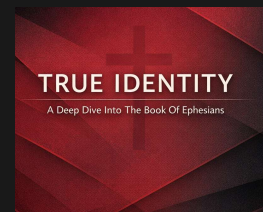
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REDEEMER

Grace

Peace

- Known presence of God through His work of salvation
- Peace with God... no more alienated
- Peace through Jesus alone



18

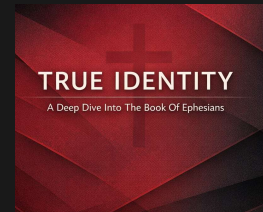
REDEEMER

Grace

Peace

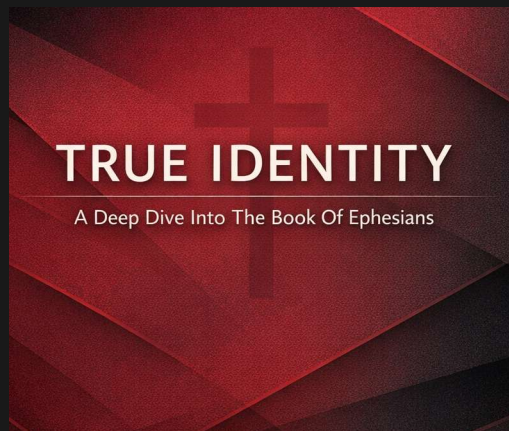
God

- Our Father
- Lord – Master
- Jesus – Son of God
- Christ – Messiah, God's anointed One, fulfilment of prophecies



19

Are You Faithfully Following God's Will?



20