

Identity - Part 2
In Adam or In Christ
07/30/2023

- What's the difference between being in Adam or in Christ
- Who are the two most important people who have ever lived in the history of the world?

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

1 Cor. 15:21–22 (NIV) For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

- There are only two categories of human beings: those who are in Adam, and those who are in Christ
- Are you in Adam or in Christ?
- When you know who you are, you'll know what to do

Eph. 1:1-10 (ESV) 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. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

- We're all born in Adam
- We all inherit from him a sinful nature
- We all inherit from him separation from God
- We're physically alive, but spiritually dead to God
- We're born in Adam
- We're born again in Christ

In Christ:

1st) I See God's **CHARACTER** in me.

Eph. 1:1 (ESV) Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus:

God's Character in me:

FAITHFUL

- The answer is in Christ
- In Christ you are faithful
- You're working for your identity, not from your identity
- To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus
- When we know we are faithful then we act faithful
- When you remember who you are, then you'll know what to do
- The world can't define you
- In Christ you are already defined
- In Christ you already have identity
- False identity
- Your true identity is in Christ

2nd) I see God's **HEART** toward me.

Eph. 1:2 (ESV) Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

- Grace and Peace
- In Christ God's not mad at you

Romans 5:9 (NIV) Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!

- Your view of God toward you will affect your view of others
- Grace and peace received is grace and peace given
- As an Individual
- As a Parent
- Parent by grace
- You tell them who they are in Christ
- You also show them who they are in Christ
- Parenting is caught more than its taught
- We don't work for our identity, we work from our identity.
- As a Leader

3rd) I see God's **BLESSING** on me.

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

Eph. 1:6 (ESV) to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

- It's all grace!
- In Christ, you're blessed

- You are always, all the time, blessed spiritually
- You've been blessed with the righteousness of Christ
- You've been blessed with the love of Christ
- You've been blessed with the forgiveness of Christ
- You've been blessed with a guaranteed resurrection from the dead and an eternal life in Christ.
- I do want you to have an attitude of gratitude
- You and I are blessed, but sometimes we're blind to the blessing

My Spiritual Blessings:

HOLY and BLAMELESS

Eph. 1:4 (ESV) even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

- Who you are is who you are in Christ.
- What you've done is a sin, and it may explain you, but by the grace of God it doesn't have to define you
- Holiness is a position not an action
- The position leads to action
- If they are in Christ, they'll be so grateful for Christ, so thankful for Christ, so in love with Christ that the last thing they'll want to do is betray Christ
- They won't want to abuse their new identity, they'll want to embrace their new identity
- I want you to know who you are in Christ so you can begin to live the life that Christ has for you, and that's Christ's life in you and through you

FORGIVEN

Eph. 1:7 (ESV) In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace,

- In Christ you're forgiven
- It is finished
- Do you feel?

Homework:

In Christ I am _____