

Heritage Alliance Church May 28th, 2023 Pastor Shawn

Authentic Identity
"A New Life in Christ"

"Since you have been raised to **new life with Christ**, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. For you died to this life, and **your real life is hidden with Christ** in God. And when Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory... **Put on your new nature**, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him. In this new life, it doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized, slave, or free. **Christ is all that matters**, and he lives in all of us... And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father."

Tensions between the TODAY and the ETERNITY

New Testament way of reckoning with two realities:

- 1. The ongoing sin in our lives is real.
- 2. Our identity as chosen, holy, and loved people is real.

"But God is so rich in mercy, and **he loved us so much**, that even though we were dead because of our sins, **he gave us life** when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and **seated us with him** in the heavenly realms because **we are united with Christ Jesus**...For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Ephesians 2:4-6,10

Who Are You... Who's Are You?

- You were created for God's glory and His purposes
- You now have a choice to accept redemption in Christ.

New Identity in Jesus Christ

You Are Loved

You Are Chosen

You Are Forgiven

You Are Redeemed – to free from captivity by payment of ransom

"Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? **You are not your own; you were bought at a price**. Therefore, honor God with your bodies."

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

You Are Adopted

"But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ," Philippians 3:20

"...you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, 'Abba, Father.' For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children." Romans 8:15-16

Obstacles to Believing in Your Identity

Past & Current Sin – (Repentance, Forgiveness, Confession) Conflicting Messages - (Self, Others, Enemy) False Beliefs - (Replacing Lies with Truth)