

# What Does It Mean to be "IN CHRIST"?

1. Mankind can be divided into two groups: 1) those outside of Christ (Col. 4:5; 1 Thess. 4:12); 2) those who are "IN CHRIST" (2 Cor. 5:17; Rom. 8:1).
2. By man's first birth he is "IN ADAM" (1 Cor. 15:22) and he is part of the old creation that was spoiled by the fall. By man's second birth (John 3) he is "IN CHRIST" (1 Cor. 15:22) and part of the new creation (2 Cor. 5:17).
3. Key passages: 1) 2 Corinthians 5:17 (*my new position*); 2) Ephesians 1:3 (*my spiritual blessings*); 3) 1 Corinthians 1:5 (*my abundant wealth*).
4. How did I get to be "IN CHRIST"? How did this happen to me? How did this come about?

MAN'S PART = **FAITH** (GALATIANS 3:26)

GOD'S PART= **BAPTISM** (GALATIANS 3:27). WHEN I WAS SAVED GOD BAPTIZED ME (IMMERSED ME) INTO JESUS CHRIST.

This baptism is not water baptism. It is a real baptism that happened the moment I was saved as God immersed me or placed me into His Son, thus IDENTIFYING me with Christ. This is my POSITION, and my STANDING.

## 5. **WHO AM I? WHAT AM I? IN CHRIST...**

I am a new creature (2 Cor. 5:17; cf. Gal. 5:6; 6:15; Eph. 2:10).

I am a saint (1 Cor. 1:2).

I am a part of His Church (Eph. 2:21-22).

I am a temple for God's Spirit (Eph. 2:22).

I am in the eternal plan of God (Eph. 1:4; 2 Tim. 1:9).

I am complete and filled full with the fullness of Christ (Col. 2:9; and compare Col. 1:19).

I am enriched (1 Cor. 1:5).

I am accepted because God's favor has been poured out upon me (Eph. 1:6).

I am light (Eph. 5:8).

I am secure in the love of God (Rom. 8:38-39).

I am established, rooted and built up (2 Cor. 1:21; Col. 2:7).

I am circumcised inwardly (Col. 2:11).

I am near to the heart of God (Eph. 2:13).

### **MY RESPONSIBILITY IN LIGHT OF THESE FACTS:**

*BY FAITH I MUST RECKON THAT IT IS SO! I MUST SEE MYSELF AS GOD SEES ME!*

## 6. WHAT DO I HAVE? WHAT DO I POSSESS?

### IN CHRIST...

I have every spiritual blessing (Eph. 1:3).  
I have eternal life, an eternal relationship with God (1 John 5:11; 1 Cor. 15:22 and Romans 6:23 where "through" could be translated "in").  
I have a glorious salvation (2 Tim. 2:10).  
I have a rich inheritance (Eph. 1:4; cf. 1 Pet. 1:4; Rom. 8:17).  
I have a glorious future (Eph. 1:4-5).  
I have a heavenly position—seated with Him! (Eph. 2:6).  
I have a high calling (Phil. 3:14).  
I have the hope of eternal glory (1 Pet. 5:10 where "by" = "in").  
I have God's perfect righteousness (2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Cor. 1:30; 6:11).  
I have sanctification or holiness (1 Cor. 1:2; 1:30; 6:11).  
I have God's wisdom (1 Cor. 1:30; cf. Col. 2:3 and 1 Cor. 2:16).  
I have redemption or freedom from bondage (Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14; Rom. 3:24; 1 Cor. 1:30).  
I have security (Rom. 8:1).  
I have complete forgiveness (Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14; 1 Cor. 6:11--"washed").

### **MY RESPONSIBILITY IN LIGHT OF THESE FACTS:**

*BY FAITH I MUST POSSESS MY POSSESSIONS AND ENJOY (CLAIM) MY RICHES!*

## 7. PRACTICAL MATTERS

### IN CHRIST...

I walk and live (Col. 2:6).  
I stand fast and firm (Phil. 4:1).  
I have constant victory (2 Cor. 2:14).  
I am fruitful (1 Cor. 15:58; Eph. 2:10).  
I can do all things (Phil. 4:13).  
I can draw near to God (Eph. 2:13,18).  
I have all that I need; every need is supplied (Phil. 4:19 "by"="in").  
I can rejoice always (Phil. 4:4; 1 Pet. 1:8).  
I have a purifying hope (1 John 3:3).  
I am strong (2 Tim. 2:1; Eph. 6:10).  
I am faithful (Eph. 1:1).  
I have faith and love (1 Tim. 1:13).  
I can be mature (Col. 1:28).

### **MY RESPONSIBILITY IN LIGHT OF THESE THINGS:**

*BY FAITH MAY I SO WALK AND LIVE (COLOSSIANS 2:6)!*