

# IN THE MIRROR *IN THE WIKBOV*



## *Beholding Who We Are In Christ*

One of the greatest revelations I believe any born again believer could ever receive is the revelation of who they are in Christ.

Sadly, most Christians live and die, never understanding what took place in them on the day they were born again. They receive Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior and then see themselves no different than the way they were before they were saved. But, saints, being “saved” holds many tremendous promises that we would do well to both see and embrace.

You see, when we were born again, something glorious took place in the spirit realm. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says that at the moment we were saved, we became a new creation in

Christ Jesus, where old things passed away and all things became new. So, contrary to popular opinion, we are not just sinners saved by grace; we are now saints because we have been given an abundance of grace. This is our truth.

Now many believers will read verses like this and be puzzled saying, “When I was saved, I did not sense the kind of change described here.” So how do we reconcile this? What if a Christian, who received Jesus as their Lord and Savior, does not have the evidence of all things becoming new in their life?

Well, first of all, we need to understand that just because we cannot touch things with our physical senses, does not mean they are not true. Let me elaborate on this point...

1 Thessalonians 5:23 teaches us that we are a three part being - spirit, soul, and body. This means that our entire person is made up of three parts. So we are not just a physical being. Our flesh is just part of us. There is also an immaterial part of us that leaves this body when we die called our spirit.

So regarding 2 Corinthians 5:17, we know that this could not be referring to our body becoming a new creation because nothing physically changed in us at that moment we were saved (expect maybe our countenance). This also could not be referring to our soul - the inner part of us that includes our mind, will, and emotions - because we did not automatically become smarter when we were saved either, did we?

No, our body will not be made new until that Glorious Day when all things are made new in the heavens and the earth. Likewise, our mind, will, and emotions are in a constant state of renewal while we are in this body on this earth. So then the part of us that the Holy Spirit must have been referring to here is our spirit - which the Bible teaches us is the real us.

Yes, saints, our spirit is the part of us that was completely transformed when we received our Lord and Savior and, therefore, we might not sense any of these changes physically or

emotionally. It is the part of us where old things passed away, it is the part of us where all things became new, and it is the part of us that became “in Christ.” Notice again in 2 Corinthians 5:17 when the Holy Spirit says, “Therefore, if anyone is *in Christ*, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, behold all things became new.” So we became a new creation as we became in Christ, for truly, He makes all things new.

So in Christ, we are not just renovated, renewed, or upgraded; no, our spirit is completely recreated with the life, nature, and characteristics of Christ Himself! Now I know that might be hard for some of us to swallow, but don’t take my word on it; take His Word on it!

The New Testament Scriptures are explicit - particularly the epistles written by the Apostle Paul - as to the reality of what it means to be in Christ and therefore a new creation. There are actually over 60 references of who we are in Christ, in Him, in Whom, etc. and there are many others that don’t use that specific terminology but the “In Christ” principle is alluded to nonetheless.

Now there are some extremely powerful promises found in these verses, such as in Christ we are righteous, redeemed, and sanctified, and that in Him we have grace, victory, and every spiritual blessing. These are just a sampling of those spiritual realities which many Christians have a hard time embracing. And do you know why so many believers have a hard time embracing them? It is because the majority of the church is unable to differentiate between who we are in Christ versus who we are in ourselves. Not to mention, the majority of Christians are also walking by sight and are insensitive to spiritual truth. In other words, they are looking in the mirror too much- only acknowledging and focusing on who they are in the natural.

But how many of you know that there is a spiritual realm out there that we need to be acknowledging? The Apostle Paul tells us this when he says, “while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not

seen” (2 Corinthians 4:18). How do you look at things that are not seen? That seems like an impossible admonition, doesn’t it? Well, Paul goes on to describe how, when he says just a few verses later, “For we walk by faith and not by sight” (5:7). In other words, the way that we can look at the things which are unseen is by looking through the eyes of faith. And the Scriptures are crystal clear that the way that this faith comes is by the Word of God itself (see Romans 10:14). So if we are going to walk by faith and not by sight, we are going to have to look into the Word of God where our faith is derived from. Amen?

Now we know, in other passages of Scripture, the Word of God is likened to a mirror (see 2 Corinthians 3:18 & James 1:23). So I submit to you that if you want to behold what you look like in the spirit, then you have to look into the mirror of God’s Word. In other words, just as you look at yourself in the mirror to see what you look like naturally, you have to look at yourself in the mirror of God’s Word to see what you look like spiritually. Therefore, the way to become more sensitive to who you are in Christ is to begin to feed your faith on what God’s Word says regarding who you are in Christ. Amen!?!

Saints, let me tell you one of the greatest benefits of focusing on who we are in Christ: As we behold in a mirror the hope of glory within us, we will begin to radiate that glory in our outer man (see 2 Corinthians 3:18). In other words, the more we renew our mind to who we are in Christ, the more we will be transformed into the same image from glory to glory. Thank you Jesus!

You see, the Scriptures teach us that God’s Word is not only a mirror, but it is also medicine to all of our flesh... Proverbs 4:20-22 says, “My son, give attention to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart; for they are life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh.”

The Hebrew word for “health” in verse 22 is the word that was often translated “medicine.”

So the Holy Spirit was teaching us that the reason we are to give attention to His Words, incline our ears to His sayings, not let them depart from our eyes, and keep them in center of our heart is because they produce life in us like medicine does. Yes, His Word repairs, restores, and helps bring the body back to life! Glory!

So if seeing and hearing God’s Word can actually affect our physical body like this, then shouldn’t we give even more earnest heed to the things which are written? More specifically, shouldn’t we begin to meditate on all of the Scriptures that declare who we are in Christ? Amen!

Saints, don’t you think if we would begin to first behold who we are in Christ in the mirror of God’s Word and then begin to verbally proclaim these truths that they will begin to take shape in the natural? Absolutely! I wholeheartedly believe that if we would begin to give attention to all of these spiritual realities and then begin to apply them to our lives by faith, they will have a medicinal effect on our flesh. In other words, the life and spirit of God’s truth concerning who are in Christ will begin to affect our body and we will physically be infused with the life that is already a reality in our spirit. Now that is a thought worth chewing on right there!

So I highly encourage you to take the following “spiritual mirror” and begin to reflect on these truths of who you are in Christ Jesus. But don’t just think on them; begin to verbally proclaim these confessions over yourself! Take these declarations of truth, and encourage yourself in the Lord! I guarantee you as you do this in faith, you will begin to experience in your body and soul the grace that is found in these verses.

Of course, these are just a small sampling of the spiritual realities of who we are and what we have in Christ. I encourage you to take time to look up all of the verses that are indexed at the end of this book, look at the mirror of God’s Word yourself, and develop your own declarations of who you are in Christ. Let His Word transform you as you renew your mind to it!

John 1:4

“*In Him* was life, and the life was the light of men”

- Since in Him is life, then I have the life of God in me. On top of that, that life of God on the inside of me is my light. Therefore, I am full of light and life.

Romans 3:24

“being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus”

- I have been freely given right standing in God’s sight by His grace. This was all accomplished by the redemption that took place in Christ Jesus. Therefore, I am purchased for Him and made right in Him.

Romans 8:1

“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.”

- In Christ Jesus, I am free from condemnation. I am declared forgiven - forever! There is no condemning sentence that can come on me since I am in Him.

Romans 8:2

“For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.”

- In Christ Jesus, I have a new principle working in me- the law of the Spirit of life. This new law has made me free from the law of sin and death. Therefore, although I may occasionally blow it, I am no longer a slave to sin like I was before Christ. Life is my inheritance in Him.

1 Corinthians 1:2

“...to those who are sanctified *in Christ Jesus*...”

- In Christ, I am sanctified - set apart for God. He has separated me from all of the kingdom of darkness and has joined me to the kingdom of light.

2 Corinthians 1:20

“For all the promises of God *in Him* are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.”

- All of God’s promises in my life are “Yes!” and “Amen!” because I am in Him. And I glorify God through having all of His promises come to pass in my life.

1 Corinthians 1:30

“But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption”

- By God’s grace and by His doing, I have been placed in Christ Jesus where He became for me wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption. God in His wisdom has given me the mind of Christ, He has justified me, He has set me apart, and He has purchased my freedom.

2 Corinthians 1:21-22

“Now He who establishes us with you *in Christ* and has anointed us is God who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.”

- I am established in Christ. No faulty foundation here! On Christ the solid Rock I stand. In Christ, I am anointed (not will be). I am anointed now because I am sealed by the Holy Spirit of promise, my guarantee of all that will be accomplished in me in Christ.

## 2 Corinthians 2:14

“Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph *in Christ*, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place”

- Because I am in Christ, I am always led into victory. And because Christ is in me, He works through me to spread the knowledge of Himself everywhere!

## 2 Corinthians 5:17

“Therefore, if anyone is *in Christ*, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

- I am a new creation in Christ- a new species of being that never has existed before. All that I used to be and have done is passed away. All things have become new in my life in Christ.

## 2 Corinthians 5:21

“For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him”

- I am the righteousness of God in Christ. I am right in God’s sight and my spirit is in agreement with His standards. Jesus became sin in my place so that I could become God’s righteousness in Him.

## Ephesians 1:3 (Compare 2 Peter 1:3)

“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”

- Because I am in Christ, I have been given every spiritual blessing Jesus inherited when He rose from the dead - what’s His is mine! Therefore, I am extremely wealthy in the spirit. EVERYTHING that pertains to life and godliness has been given to me in Him.

## Ephesians 1:4

“just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love”

- I am chosen in Him - actually hand-picked and selected by God before the foundation of the world. Because of Christ’s love, I am holy and without blame before God.

## Ephesians 1:6

“...by which He made us accepted *in the Beloved*”

- Because of Christ’s sacrifice, I am made acceptable and am highly favored in the Beloved. And because I am in the Beloved, I “be-loved” by the Father.

## Ephesians 1:7

“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace”

- In Him, I have been purchased, forgiven of my sins through God’s ultimate act of love in sending Jesus to shed His blood on the cross for me.

## Ephesians 1:11

“In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will”

- I have been given an inheritance in Christ Jesus. In fact, this extremely rich gift has been placed in me by the creator and sustainer of the universe.

## Ephesians 1:13-14

“In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; *in whom* also, having believed, you were

sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.”

- I am in Christ and, therefore, have been sealed with the Holy Spirit. My spirit has been signed, sealed, and delivered to its final destination. So now the Holy Spirit is the guarantee of my inheritance, the redemption of my body.

Ephesians 2:5-6

“even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places *in Christ Jesus*”

- I have been made alive in Christ Jesus. Not only that, but I have been raised up together with Him and have been blessed to sit with my Lord Jesus in heaven. Yes, because I am in Him, I am, in my spirit, one with His resurrection, ascension, and seating in the heavenly places.

Ephesians 2:10

“For we are His workmanship, created *in Christ Jesus* for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them”

- In Christ, I am God’s workmanship, His own work of art, His masterpiece. And God created me, this masterpiece, with a purpose - to do the specific good works that God created me, and only me, to accomplish for His glory.

Ephesians 2:13

“But now *in Christ Jesus* you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ”

- Now that I am in Christ, I am not far off anymore. This means that God is not far off from me either. We have been brought near to each other through the blood of Christ.

Ephesians 3:6

“that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel”

- I am no longer an outsider to the promises of God, like non-Jews were in Old Testament times. In Christ, I am part of the family, and a partaker of God’s promise through the gospel.

Ephesians 3:12

“*in whom* we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him”

- In Christ, I have access to come into the very presence of the God of the universe; and not just limited access - FULL access. I can bring my cares, concerns, desires and praise boldly to His throne of grace.

Ephesians 5:8

“For you were once darkness, but now you are light *in the Lord*. Walk as children of light”

- In Christ, I am now light. Before I knew Christ, I was in darkness, but now I am light in the Lord. Now I can, and will, walk as a child of light.

Ephesians 6:10

“Finally, my brethren, be strong *in the Lord* and in the power of His might.”

- In Christ Jesus, I find my strength. The Scriptures say let the weak say I am strong. Therefore, I declare that I am strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

Philippians 3:13-14

“...forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God *in Christ Jesus*”

- In Christ, my past is to be forgotten - it no longer defines me; and God has called me forward, not backwards! As I abide in Christ Jesus, I will move upward, fulfilling the goal of His calling on my life.

Colossians 1:14

“in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins”

- In Christ, I have been purchased, forgiven of all sin, and set free from slavery to sin through His blood.

Colossians 2:3

“in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge”

- Because all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are in Christ, and I am in Him, all the wisdom and knowledge of God are available to me.

Colossians 2:10

“For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power”

- I am complete in Jesus, the One who is the culmination of Father, Son and Holy Spirit all in one. Therefore, in Him, I am complete, filled with that same fullness that Christ was filled with.

1 Timothy 1:14

“And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus”

- In Christ Jesus, I don't just get a little grace; I get exceedingly abundant grace. And faith and love are also my inheritance in Him. So in Christ Jesus, I have grace, faith, and love.

2 Timothy 1:9

“who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began”

- In Christ Jesus, I am saved and called with a holy calling. And this salvation and calling is not according to my works, but solely according to His purpose and grace. So in Him, I have purpose, a holy calling, grace and salvation, all planned for me before the beginning of time.

2 Timothy 1:13

“Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are *in Christ Jesus*.”

- In Christ, there is faith and love. Therefore, I am not seeking more faith or more love. They are part of my inheritance in Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 2:1

“You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is *in Christ Jesus*”

- In Christ Jesus, there is grace, and this grace is here to make me strong and to fill and overflow me with power and ability.

2 Timothy 2:10

“Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is *in Christ Jesus* with eternal glory”

- In Christ Jesus, I have obtained salvation with eternal glory. That is grace and glory from the day I was saved to the end of eternity.

## Philemon 1:6

“that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you *in Christ Jesus*”

- In Christ Jesus, I am full of good things. I am loaded! As I recognize and begin to use these good things within me, the sharing of my faith becomes more effective.

## 1 John 2:27

“But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide *in Him*.”

- I abide in Him because I have the anointing of the Holy Spirit abiding in me, and this same anointing teaches me concerning all things and is true. The Holy Spirit is my teacher in Christ.

## 1 John 5:14-15

“Now this is the confidence that we have *in Him*, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him”

- Now this is the confidence that I have in Him, that if I ask anything according to His will, He hears me. And if I know that He hears me, whatever I ask, I know that I have the petitions that I have asked of Him. This all stems from being in Him. Yes, I can confidently ask for things according to His will and know that my Heavenly Father hears me. Therefore, I expect to receive those things in awesomely surprising ways.

## In Christ

Romans 12:5  
1 Corinthians 15:22  
2 Corinthians 1:21-22  
2 Corinthians 2:14  
2 Corinthians 3:14  
2 Corinthians 5:17  
Ephesians 1:3  
Ephesians 3:6  
1 Thessalonians 4:16

## In Christ Jesus

1 Corinthians 1:2  
1 Corinthians 1:30  
Galatians 2:4  
Galatians 3:28  
Galatians 5:6  
Galatians 6:15  
Ephesians 2:5-6  
Ephesians 2:10  
Ephesians 2:13  
Philippians 3:13-14  
Colossians 1:28  
Romans 3:24  
Romans 8:1  
Romans 8:2  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18  
1 Timothy 1:14  
2 Timothy 1:9  
2 Timothy 1:13  
2 Timothy 2:1  
2 Timothy 2:10  
2 Timothy 3:15  
Philemon 1:6

## In Him

John 1:4  
Acts 17:28  
2 Corinthians 1:20  
2 Corinthians 5:21  
Ephesians 1:4  
Ephesians 1:7  
Ephesians 1:11  
Philippians 3:9  
Colossians 1:17  
Colossians 2:6  
Colossians 2:7  
Colossians 2:10  
Colossians 2:11  
1 John 2:5

## In Him (Cont'd)

1 John 2:6  
1 John 2:27  
1 John 2:28  
1 John 3:5  
1 John 3:24  
1 John 4:13  
1 John 5:14-15  
1 John 5:20

## In Whom

Ephesians 1:13-14  
Ephesians 2:21  
Ephesians 2:22  
Ephesians 3:12  
Colossians 1:14  
Colossians 2:3

## In The Beloved

Ephesians 1:6

## In The Lord

Ephesians 5:8  
Ephesians 6:10

## Through Him & By Him

Romans 5:17-19  
Ephesians 1:5  
Philippians 1:11  
Philippians 4:19  
1 Peter 2:5  
1 Corinthians 1:5  
1 Corinthians 8:6  
Colossians 3:17  
Hebrews 13:15



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