Who I Am in Christ

We are always (and often subconsciously) evaluating and developing beliefs about ourselves, others, and the world through the information and experiences we encounter. This can be described as our worldview. It becomes a filter which guides our choices and behaviors as well as affecting future beliefs as we adapt new information into our old framework. Our task is to see ourselves, life, and the world as God sees them, according to Scripture.

There are spiritual facts true about every human born on earth, all bound through the results of Adam's sin in the Garden.

Before I know Jesus, I am:

- Alienated from God; without God (Isa 59:2; Eph 2:12; 4:18)
- Sinner (Ro 5:19; 1 Tim 1:15)
- Dead in sin; spiritually dead (Eph 2:5; Col 2:13; 1 Tim 5:6)
- Friend of the world; follow principles of the world (James 4:4; Eph 2:2; Col 2:8, 20; 1 John 2:15-16)
- Enemy of God; hostile toward God (Ro 8:7; James 4:4; Col 1:21)
- Spiritually blind; do not understand things of God (1 Cor 2:14; Ro 1:21-22, 28, 31; James 3:14-16)
- Hard of heart (Eph 4:18; Ro 1:21; 2:5)
- In domain of darkness (Eph 5:8; Col 1:13)
- Walking in sin; wandering astray; engaging in evil deeds; living in lusts of flesh (Col 1:21; 3:5-7; Eph 2:2-3; 4:19)
- Walking according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit at work in disobedience (Eph 2:2)
- Sons of disobedience (Eph 2:2; 5:6)
- On the broad road of destruction (Matt 7:13)
- Deceived and deceiving; futility of mind; approving unrighteousness (Ro 1:18, 21; 16:18; Eph 4:17-18; Col 3:2; 2 Tim 3:13; Titus 3:3)
- Indulging flesh and mind (Gal 5:19-21; Eph 2:3; 4:19; 1 Tim 5:6; Ro 8:5; 16:18; Titus 3:3; James 5:5; 2 Pet 2:10)
- Morally ruined (Eph 4:22; Ro 1:24-32; Gal 6:8)
- Guilty, defiled (John 15:22; 16:8; 1 John 3:4; Mk 7:20-23; Ps 38:4; Lev 6:4)
- Without Messiah Jesus (Eph 2:12)
- Condemned (Ro 5:18; 8:1, 3; Mk 16:16; John 3:18)
- Unable to bear good fruit (Matt 7:17-19; John 15:5; Ro 7:5)
- Without hope (Eph 2:12)

These are former things for those who are now in Christ.



United with Jesus, I am:

When we are united with Christ in faith and baptism (Ro 6:5-7), we enter or sign on to a new covenant (contract) with God which has the fine print of a legal document. We are often unaware or uninformed about the fine print that describes the incredible and remarkable shift and realignment that occurs when we are baptized. This brings us into a new reality through Jesus in at least four different areas.

Relationships in Christ

- God is my spiritual Father (Gal 4:6; Matt 7:11; Heb 12:7-10)
- Chosen by God, holy & dearly loved (Col 3:12; Eph 1:4; 2:4; John 3:16)
- Bought with a price & belong to God (1 Cor 6:19b-20; 7:23)
- Born again, born of God (1 John 5:1, 4, 5, 18)
- Adopted by God (Eph 1:5; Ro 8:15; Gal 4:5)
- Child of God (John 1:12; 1 John 3:1-3; Gal 3:26-28; 4:6-7)
- Member of God's household (Eph 2:19)
- Jesus is my brother (Heb 2:11; Mark 3:35)
- Heir and joint heir (Eph 1:13-14; Ro 8:17; Gal 4:7)
- Christ is in me (Col 1:27); joined to Lord and one spirit with him (1 Cor 6:15a, 17)
- Cannot be separated from the love of Christ (Ro 8:35)
- Member of Christ's body (1 Cor 12:27)
- Fellow citizen with rest of saints (Eph 2:19)
- Christ's friend (John 15:15)
- Stranger and alien in the world (1 Pet 2:11)

RESULTS:

- Direct access to God through holy spirit (Eph 2:18)
- Citizenship in heaven (Phil 3:20; Eph 2:19)
- Enslaved to God (Ro 6:22)

Identity in Christ

- I died with Christ; I died in Christ (Ro 6:1-6; 2 Cor 5:14-15; Gal 5:24)
- I am a new creation (2 Cor 5:17)
- I am God's daughter (1 John 3:1; 2 Cor 6:18)
- I am sister & bride of the Messiah (Matt 12:50; Ro 8:29; 2 Cor 11:2)
- I am a slave of righteousness (Ro 6:18)
- Christ is my life (Col 3:1-4)
- I am clothed in Christ (Gal 3:27)
- I am a branch of true vine, bearing much fruit (John 15:1, 5)
- I am God's temple; spirit dwells in me (1 Cor 3:16-17; 6:19; 2 Cor 6:16)
- I am a saint (Eph 1:1; 2:19; 1 Cor 1:2; 2 Cor 1:1)
- I am God's workmanship (Eph 2:10)
- I am a citizen of heaven (Phil 3:20; Eph 2:6)
- I am given a spirit of power, love, sound mind (2 Tim 1:7)
- I am spiritually circumcised, sinful flesh put off (Col 2:11)
- What I am is by the grace of God (1 Cor 15:10)
- I am of the light and day (not night and darkness) (1 Thess 5:5)
- I am a chosen race, royal priesthood, holy nation, belonging to God (1 Pet 2:9-10)
- I am a living stone of a spiritual house (1 Pet 2:5)
- I am alien and stranger in this world (1 Pet 2:11)
- I am an enemy of the devil (1 Pet 5:8)

RESULTS:

- My flesh is crucified (Gal 5:24)
- I am crucified with Christ and no longer live, but Christ lives in me and I live the life of Christ (Gal 2:20; 2 Cor 5:14-15)
- My life is hidden with Christ (Col 3:1-4)
- I am raised up with Christ (Col 3:1-4)
- I share in Christ if I firmly hold confidence in God (Heb 3:14)
- I will be revealed in glory with Jesus (Col 3:1-4)
- I have been given promises so I can participate in the divine nature and escape corruption of the world (2 Pet 1:4)

Spiritual state in Christ

- Forgiven (Eph 1:7; 4:32; Col 2:13; Acts 10:43)
- Reconciled to God (Col 1:21-22; 2 Cor 5:18)
- Redeemed, receive riches of God's grace (Eph 1:7-8; Gal 3:13; Ro 3:24; 1 Cor 1:30; Col 1:13-14)
- Justified; free from condemnation (Ro 5:1, 9; 8:1, 33; 1 Cor 6:11)
- Saved [from wrath] (Ro 5:9; 2 Tim 1:9; Titus 3:5)
- Established, anointed, sealed by God (2 Cor 1:21-22)
- Placed in Christ by God; Jesus is in me (1 Cor 1:30; Gal 2:20)
- Raised & seated with Christ (Eph 2:6)
- Alive in Christ (Eph 2:5)
- Made righteous (2 Cor 5:21)
- Chosen to be without blame (Eph 1:4)
- Complete in Christ (Col 2:10)
- Given mind of Christ (1 Cor 2:16)
- Receive holy spirit of God (1 Cor 2:12)
- Blessed with every spiritual blessing (Eph 1:3)

RESULTS:

- Christ is my life (Col 3:4)
- God will show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward me (Eph 2:7)
- Can approach God with boldness & confidence (Eph 3:12; Heb 10:22)
- Chosen in Christ to be holy [dedicated to God; set apart for God's purposes] (Eph 1:4)
- Greater is he that is in me than he who is in the world (1 Jn 4:4)
- Am more than a conqueror (Ro 8:37)
- Will be resurrected when Jesus returns (1 Thess 4:13-17)

Purpose in Christ

- I am an ambassador for Christ (2 Cor 5:20)
- I am a minister of reconciliation (2 Cor 5:17-19)
- I am equipped for every good work (2 Tim 3:16-17)
- I am the salt and light of the world (Matt 5:13, 14-16)
- I am chosen/ appointed to bear lasting fruit (John 15:16)
- I am a personal witness of Jesus (Acts 1:8)
- I am God's co-worker (2 Cor 6:1; 1 Cor 3:9)
- I am called to a holy life [dedicated and set apart for God's purposes] (Col 1:22; Eph 1:4)
- I share in a heavenly calling (Heb 3:1)

RESULTS:

- All things work together for good (Ro 8:28)
- God will perfect the good work begun in me (Phil 1:6)
- I can do all things through him who strengthens me (Phil 4:13)
- I live in Christ, rooted in him, built up in him (Col 2:6-7)
- I am being built as a spiritual house (1 Pet 2:5)
- I am given all I need for life and godliness through knowledge of God (2 Pet 1:3)