



In Christ Jesus

The fabulous journey
to become who you really are!

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Be blessed as you remember what an awesome creation
of Almighty God you really are!

Introduction

**Let me begin with a statement
of absolute truth:**

**YOU are an awesome uniquely created
masterpiece of Almighty God. You have a
purpose here in time and a glorious eternal
future. And all of this is made possible through
the love and grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

The Search For Identity

People everywhere today are grappling for self-identity. Many are gripped with a terrifying insecurity. Advertisements blare assurances that this or that product will miraculously remove this empty vacuum in our ego, lavishing our eyes and ears with hollow promises of sex, riches, honor and popularity.

The truth is though that a new outfit, a wonderful car, or another shallow romantic relationship, will only satisfy for short time (if at all).

The root of the problem lies much deeper than any created thing could solve.

So what's the problem?

In the beginning man was so intimately connected to His Creator, His heavenly Father, that he knew nothing of fear, insecurity, lack or low self-esteem. Created in the very image of the One who loved Him and placed in the Garden of Delight (the literal meaning of Eden), mankind (both male and female) knew only abundance, acceptance, worth and esteem, love and victory.

All this changed of course when Adam swapped allegiances and chose to follow the deceiver – that old serpent, satan.

From that point on a horrible self-awareness swept across the hitherto

innocent couple's souls.

Naked and fearful they sought to hide from the only One who could resolve their awful plight.

This first son, now cowering behind a bush, unwilling to be seen by others, felt the painful sting of shame sear his mind and heart.

He looked for a way, any way, to blame someone else for his error, to shove his guilty burden upon another...

And another came to take the blame...

Disguised in the frailty of humanity, the Son of God Himself, born of a virgin and wrapped in swaddling clothes, arrived at the set time to undo all the tangled mess of sin.

The first man failed, and all who were yet in his loins failed with Him.

Generation after generation, bound in the unrelenting grip of sin...

In Adam.

The Second Man, although wrestled to the ground by death, rose victorious and free, extending an invite to all who would follow in His victory train...

In Christ.

You are no longer who you once were

If you have accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior a radical transformation has taken place. You are no longer the person you once were.

Jesus did not just come to clean up the old you, make you respectable and religious. God forbid. His heavenly mission was not to make a group of nice Christians – He came to create something completely new.

Jesus likened it to be being born again, a brand new life:

John 3:7 **Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.**

Paul described it as a New Creation:

2 Cor. 5:17 Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

This was not just a fresh lick of paint – it's a whole new house. You have become a dwelling place for God's Spirit.

You are no longer bound to the old self, no longer subject to the old ways. You are free from the old habits, unfettered from the old limitations, delivered from the old fears, and above the old insecurities. Need I go on?

You are a masterpiece of God's making:

Eph. 2:10 For **we are God's masterpiece.** He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so that we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

God does not do things in half measures. When the Bible speaks of a masterpiece, it is talking about a work of utmost excellence – a creation of exquisite beauty and potential. A magnum opus of inestimable value and worth. That's You – in Christ Jesus.



Take Another Look In The Mirror

In the Scriptures we are encouraged to remember who we are, not lament over what we once were.

The Bible says that we were once without God and without hope. It was not a nice picture:

“Once you were dead, doomed forever because of your many sins.

You used to live just like the rest of the world, full of sin, obeying Satan, the mighty prince of the power of the air. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God.

All of us used to live that way, following the passions and desires of our evil nature. We were born with an evil nature, and we were under God’s anger just like everyone else.”

Ephesians 2:1-3

“But God...” (don’t you just love those words!)

“But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so very much, that even while we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God’s special favor that you have been saved!)

For he raised us from the dead along with Christ, and we are seated with him in the heavenly realms—all because we are one with Christ Jesus.”

Ephesians 2:4-6

James speaks about this reality and urges us to not forget these amazing truths.

He likens it to a man or woman looking in the mirror. When we look in the Scriptures we recognize who we really are. No longer sinners but saints. No longer condemned, but the very righteousness of God in Christ Jesus.

“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror;

for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was.

But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues *in it*, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.”

James 1:22-25

Don’t forget what manner of man (or woman) you now are. As we get our identity sorted, and discover the depth and significance of what it means to be *in Christ Jesus*, our actions will spring from that new reality.

You are not *trying* to be righteous. You *are* righteous. By virtue of your faith in Jesus Christ His right standing with God has been credited to your account. And believe me, Jesus’ account was not lacking. There is more than enough for whosoever comes to Him!



Remember Where You Are Sitting

Eph. 2:6 and (God) raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus,

Regarding the practical application of these truths a primary place is in our prayer life.

Some struggle terribly thinking that they are somehow trying to reach God who is far, far away.

Read the Scripture above. Is this true?

If it is truth (and it is) where are you sitting?

You are “in Christ Jesus” and the Bible tells me that He is sat beside the Father, right there next to Him.

He doesn't have to shout and scream and cry to get the Father's attention. He just leans over and makes His request from His loving and generous Daddy.

So it is with us.

We are encouraged to make all of our desires and requests known to God. To ask whatever we want, in His name.

John 16:23 ¶ “And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you.

Why not just lean over right now, and ask your Dad for some of those things you so desire and long for. He has promised to answer.

Remember, you are “in Christ” – it is as He Himself were asking the Father. Do you think God would deny His own Son?

Well then, whose child are you? That's right!

Gal. 3:26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

Daddy loves you.

IN CHRIST REALITIES AND SCRIPTURES

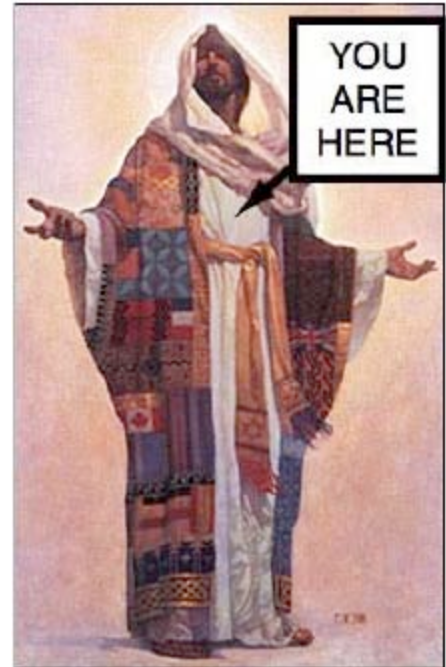
Paul's Revelation of the reality of our redemption hangs on one phrase: "In Christ".

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." 2Cor. 5:17

The new creation is a reality we all need to grasp. We are citizens of a Kingdom where old things have passed away and all things have been made new.

In Him we have redemption, healing and peace.

In Christ we have all our needs supplied and a future filled with hope and joy.



One way to use these declarations is to print them out and speak them out.

Let's face it, sometimes we need to remind ourselves of the truth!

PLEASE ADD YOUR OWN DECLARATIONS TOO! I have left space at the end of the document for you to add your own discoveries of who you are in Christ.

Over the page are listed just some of these awesome realities, personalized to strengthen your heart and energize your faith.

God tells me in His word that...

I AM God's child for I am born again of the incorruptible seed of the Word of God which lives and abides forever. 1Pet 1:23

I AM Forgiven of all my sins. 1Jn2:12 1Jn 1:9

I AM A new creature. 2 Cor 5:17

I AM The temple of the Holy Spirit. 1 Cor6:19

I AM Delivered from the power of darkness and translated into God's Kingdom. Col 1: 13

I AM Redeemed from the curse of the law. 1 Pet 1:18,19; Gal 3:13

I AM Blessed! Deut 28:2; Gal 3:9

I AM the head and not the tail. Above only and not beneath. Deut 28:13

I AM holy and without blame before Him in love. Eph 1:4

I AM Established to the end. 1 Cor 1:8

I AM made near by the blood of Jesus. Eph 2:13

I AM Victorious. 1 Cor 15: 57

I AM set free. Jn 8:36

I AM Strong in the Lord. Eph 6:10

I AM dead to sin and alive to God. Rom 6:11

I AM More than a conqueror. Rom 8:37

I AM joint heir with Christ. Rom 8:17

I AM Sealed with the Holy Spirit of Promise. Eph 1 :13

I AM a son of God. Gal 4:7

I AM In Christ Jesus, by His doing. 1 Cor 1 :30

I AM accepted in the Beloved. Eph 1:6

I AM Complete in Him. Col 2:10

I AM crucified with Christ. Gal 2:20

I AM Alive with Christ. Eph 2:4,5

I AM free from condemnation. Rom 8:1

I AM Reconciled to God. 2 Cor 5:18

I AM qualified to share in His inheritance. Col 1 :12

I AM Firmly rooted, built up, established in my faith and over flowing with gratitude. Col 2:7

I AM A fellow citizen with the saints and of the household of God. Eph 2:19

I AM Built upon the foundation of the apostles & prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Corner Stone. Eph 2:20

I AM born of God and the evil one does not touch me. 1 Jn5:18

I AM His faithful follower. Eph 5:1

I AM raised up with Christ and seated in heavenly places. Eph 2:6

I AM beloved of God. Col 3:12

I AM One in Christ .Jn 17:21

I AM overtaken with blessings. Eph 1:3

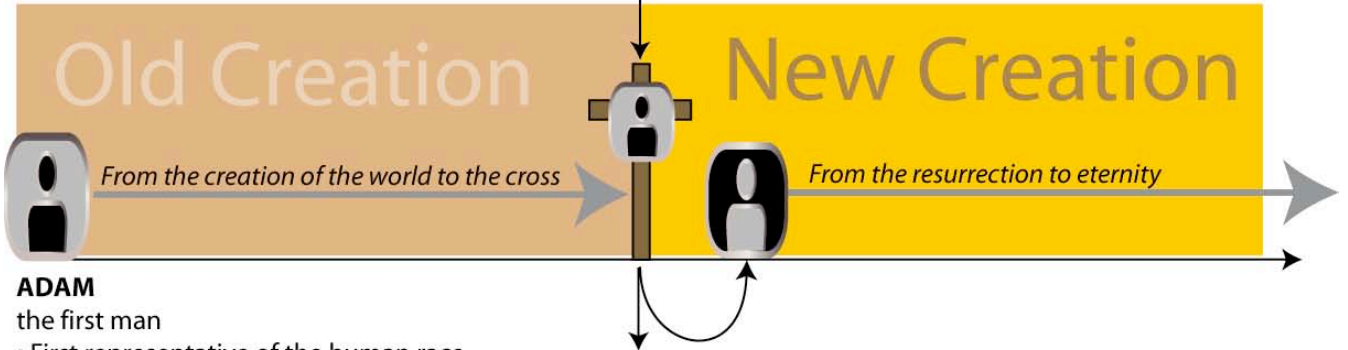
I AM His disciple because I have love for others. Jn 13:34,35

I AM The light of the world. Mat 5:14
I AM the salt of the earth. Mat5:13
I AM The righteousness of God. 2 Cor 5:21
I AM a partaker of His divine nature. 2 Pet 1:4
I AM Called of God. 2 Tim 1:9
I AM the firstfruits among His creation. James 1 :18
I AM Chosen. Eph1:4
I AM an ambassador for Christ. 2 Cor 5:20
I AM God's workmanship created in Christ Jesus for good works. Eph 2:10
I AM the apple of my Father's eye. Ps 17:8
I AM Healed by the stripes of Jesus. 1 Pet 2:24
I AM being changed into His image. 2 Cor 3:18
I AM a true worshiper who worships the Father in Spirit and in Truth. John 4:24
I AM one of a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that I should show forth the praises of him who has called me out of darkness into his marvelous light. 1 Peter 2:9
I AM free from fear because the perfect love of God within me casts out all fear! 1 John 4:18
I AM without sin. 1John 3:9
I AM changed into the exact image of Jesus. 2Cor 3:18
I AM as Jesus is right now and forever! 1 John 4:17
I AM the redeemed of the Lord, whom he has redeemed from the hand of the enemy. Psalm 107:2
I HAVE The mind of Christ. 1 Cor 2:16
I HAVE obtained an inheritance. Eph 1 :11
I HAVE Access by one Spirit to the Father. Eph 2:18
I HAVE overcome the world. 1 Jn 5:4
I HAVE Everlasting life and will not be condemned. Jn 5:24
I HAVE God as my heavenly Father. 2 Cor 6:18
I HAVE the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him. Eph 1 :17
I HAVE The peace of God which passes understanding. Phil 4:7
I HAVE Received power, the power of the Holy Spirit; power to lay hands on the sick and see them recover; power to cast out demons. Mk 16:17,18
I HAVE Authority over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt me. Luke 10:19
I LIVE by and in the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus. Rom 8:2
I WALK In Christ Jesus. Col 2:6
I CAN do all things in Christ Jesus. Phil 4:13
I CAN come boldly to the throne of grace. Hebrews 4:16
MY LIFE Is hidden with Christ in God. Col 3:3
I SHALL do even greater works than Christ Jesus. Jn 14:12
I Possess the Greater One in me because greater is He who is in me than he who is in the world. 1 Jn 4:4

JESUS CHRIST

Takes the sin of Adam and his generations upon Himself, thus becoming the 'last Adam' when He dies on the cross, paying full penalty for His earthly father's (Adam's) transgression.

- Second representative of the human race
- Lord over the new creation

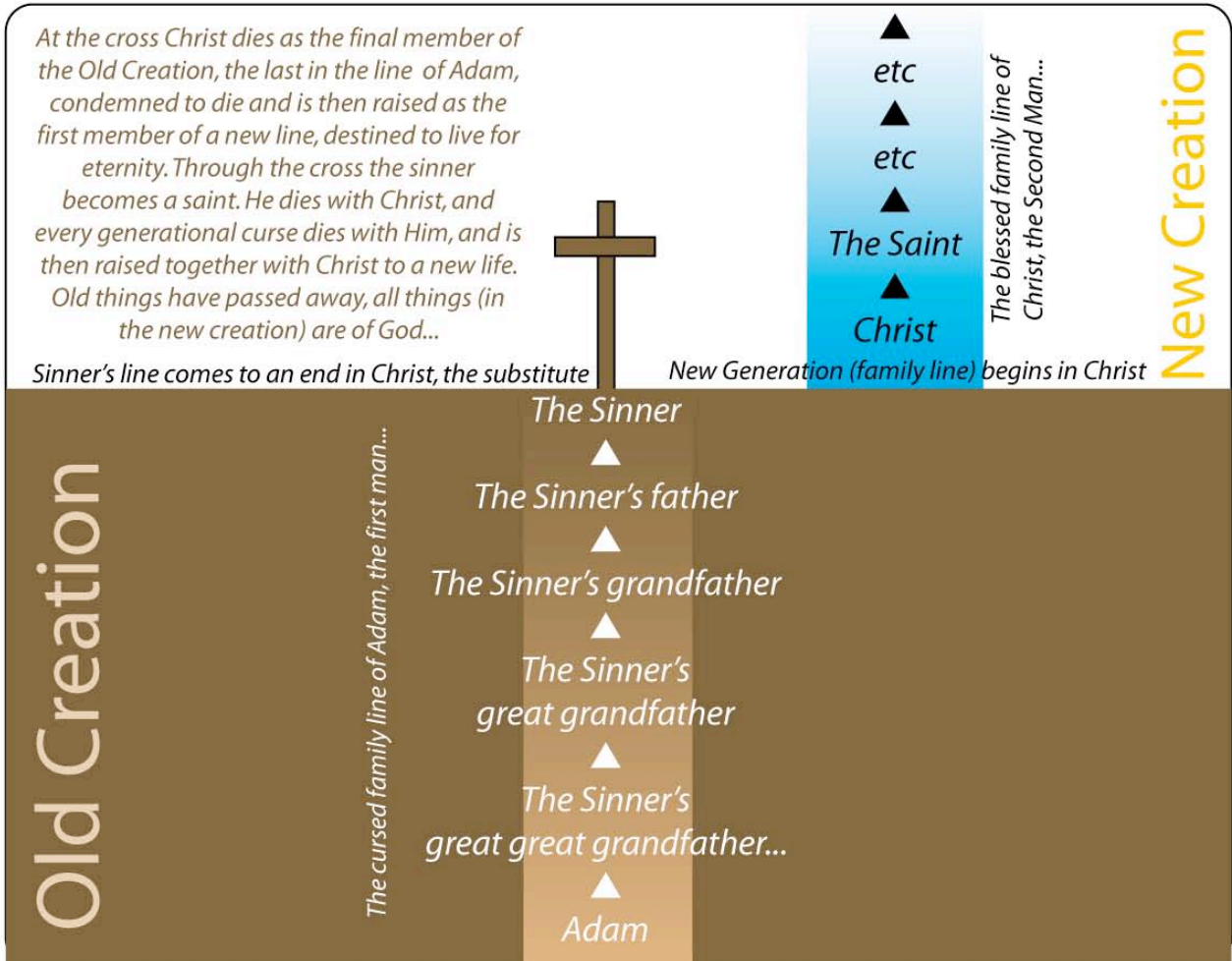


ADAM

the first man

- First representative of the human race
- Lord over the original creation

Christ dies, thus bringing to an end the representative reign of Adam, and is raised as the 'Second (perfect) Man', three days later. Whilst we remain 'in Adam' we remain subject to the curse upon him and the created order in which he exercises dominion (the Scriptures refer to this as 'the world'. By choosing Christ as our head and representative through faith, we step from one creation to the other. Although we remain 'in the world' we are no longer 'of the world'.



The idea for this document was inspired by the lesson from the Spirit Life Bible School session, “In Christ Realities”.

This in depth study clearly lays out the amazing reality and exchange that took place at the Cross.

Included in the lesson are scriptural teachings on the “two Adams”, the “old and new creations”, the “exchange of the cross”, and who we are “In Christ Jesus”.

Lesson 5 of the module “The Atonement” – In Christ Realities

<http://www.studythebiblenow.com/browse-modules/doctrinal-modules/5-the-atonement/>

Be blessed and go change the world!

David Martin

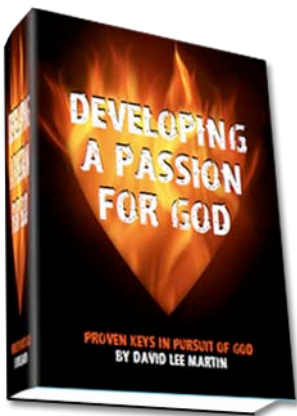


David Lee Martin is a Pastor, Bible Teacher and Christian Blogger and entrepreneur. You can access His faith filled Christian sites and get lots of FREE resources and information, as well as some of the best Christian resources on the Internet at:

<http://www.jesuschrist.co.uk>

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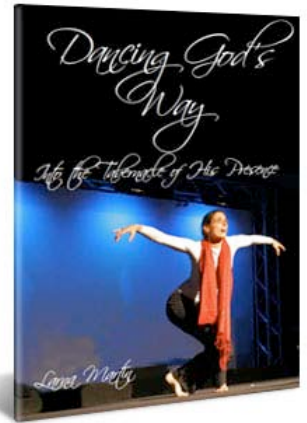


More Resources to feed your spirit and build your life in Christ...

Developing A Passion For God

Fire the furnace of love you have for the Savior with this powerful and passionate teaching.

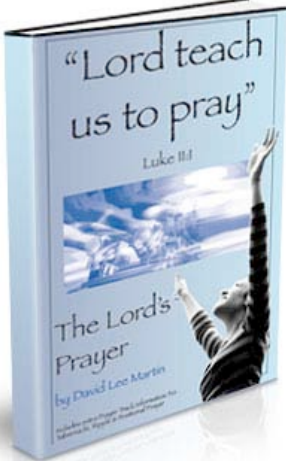
<http://www.jesuschrist.co.uk/passionforgod>



“Lord, Teach Us To Pray – The Lord’s Prayer”

Learn to pray the timeless prayer taught by Christ to His disciples (and which He still teaches today!)

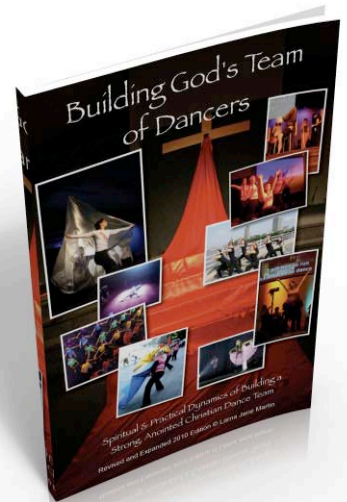
<http://www.jesuschrist.co.uk/thelordsprayer>



Do Not Disturb – An Uncompromising and Liberating Guide To Christian Sex and Intimacy in Marriage

A married adult only book covering the subject of intimate enjoyment in Christian marriage.

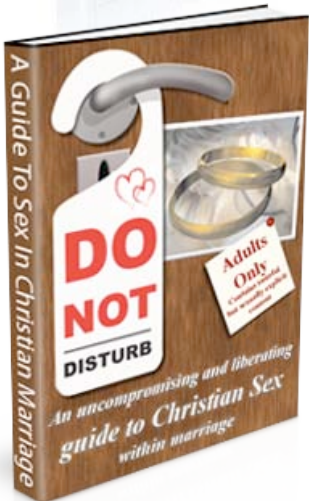
<http://www.jesuschrist.co.uk/christiansex>



Dancing God’s Way

A powerful testimony revealing keys to the anointing through dance and movement in God’s presence

<http://www.jesuschrist.co.uk/dance>



Building God’s Team of Dancers

Take your praise dance ministry to the next level with this passionate and practical guide to developing the anointing in others as you lead them in dance ministry.

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