



Foundations of Transformation – Lesson #3

The Christ-Centered Life

A. Overview of Positional Truth

1. Position in Christ Described:

- a) The believer is _____ into God's family. (John 1:12)
- b) The believer has _____ Christ, like a garment. (Galatians 3:26-28)

2. Position In Christ Defined: _____.

- a) Every believer is **identified with** Christ, **united with** Christ, **baptized into** Christ, or **positioned in** Christ (these phrases are all synonymous).
- b) Every believer is placed into Christ a _____ of believing in Christ. (1 Corinthians 12:12-13, Galatians 3:26, John 10:28-30)
- c) Whatever is true of _____ is also true of the believer's position.

* for example:

- *As Christ is accepted*, the believer is accepted in Him (Eph. 1:6)
- *As Christ is righteous*, the believer has Christ's righteousness (2 Cor. 5:21)
- *As Christ is the heir of God*, the believer is a fellow-heir (Rom. 8:16-17)
- *As Christ died*, the believer has died with Him (Rom. 6:3-5, Col. 2:12, 20)
- *As Christ rose*, the believer has risen with Him (Rom. 6:3-5, Col. 2:13; 3:1-4)

Principal to remember: Every believer is securely positioned in Christ. This identity has permanently changed the way God sees us. The more that we see ourselves from God's perspective, the more that we will become like Him.

B. The Value of Knowing Who You Are (Romans 6)

1. Know Your Identity – Romans 6:1-10

Topic: This passage is about knowing how to live before God after having received His grace.

Context: Having understood justification by grace, it is reasonable to wonder about the ongoing problem of sin in the life of a believer.

What is there to know?

1) Every believer has been united with Christ in His death and resurrection. (Rom. 6:1-4)

2) The stated purpose for this unity is so that we will live a new kind of life. (Rom. 6:4b)

3) Our “old man” died – as a result, sin no longer has authority over us. (Rom 6:5-7)

* The best way to understand “old man” in the context of Romans 6 is the identity you had before you became a believer. That old identity, in Adam (compare chapter 5), is no longer your identity. You are in Christ.

* The best way to understand “done away with” (NKJV) is that the sin nature has been rendered inoperative, or stripped of its power to enslave.

4) Our new life can now follow the pattern of Christ’s life. (Rom. 6:8-10)

2. Believe Your Identity – Romans 6:11

* Greek *logizōmai* = *to reckon, take into account; to consider to be true*

* Your identity summarized: Dead to _____. Alive to _____.

3. Present Yourself to God (as He sees you) – Romans 6:12-14

* Negatively, _____ not to allow sin to be your master.

* Positively, allow God to be your master. Your _____ makes this possible.