

## Doctrine of Positional Truth

1. Because a Christian is identified in Scripture as being “*in Christ*”, a fundamental understanding of this positional truth is vital for the victorious Christian life.
  - *2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*
  
2. Because every believer is “*in Christ*” they are accepted in the beloved.
  - The believer is a child of God. *John 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:*
  - The believer is a friend of Jesus Christ. *John 15:15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.*
  
3. Because every believer is “*in Christ*” they have been justified.
  - *Romans 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:*
  - *Romans 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*
  
4. Justification brings forth the following truths.
  - An essential unity with the Lord. *1 Corinthians 6:17 But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.*
  - A purchased possession. *1 Corinthians 6:19 What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.*
  - A member of Christ’s body. *1 Corinthians 12:27 Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.*
  - Being chosen and adopted. *Ephesians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: 4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: 5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,*

6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. 7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; 8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence;

- Being redeemed and forgiven for all sin. *Colossians 1:13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: 14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:*
- Being complete in Christ. *Colossians 2:9 For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. 10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:*
- Enjoying access to the throne of grace. *Hebrews 4:14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. 15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.*

#### 5. Justification brings spiritual freedom.

- The Christian is free from condemnation. *Romans 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*
- The Christian is freed from fear of circumstances. *Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.*
- The Christian is free from fear of abandonment or separation. *Romans 8:31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? 32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?*
- The Christian is free from the fear of being lost again. *2 Corinthians 1:21 Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; 22 Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts. John 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. 29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.*

- The Christian is free from of the necessity of pursuing fleshly lusts. *Colossians 3: 1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.*
  - The Christian is free to believe in the doctrine of eternal security. *Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:*
  - The Christian is free to look for the Savior. *Philippians 3:20 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ:*
  - The Christian is free to enjoy power, love, and a sound mind. *2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.*
  - The Christian is free to resist the devil. *1 John 5:18 We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.*
6. Because every believer is “*in Christ*” the Christian can find gospel privileges and spiritual power.
- Spiritual power is found in a vital unity to Christ. *John 15:5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.*
  - Gospel privilege is found in being chosen by God. *John 15:16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.*
  - Spiritual power is found in the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit. *1 Corinthians 3:16 16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?*
  - Gospel privilege is found by engaging in the ministry of reconciliation. *2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. 20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. 21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.*

- Spiritual power is found by being endowed with kingdom authority. *Ephesians 2:6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:*
- Gospel privilege is found in God's workmanship. *Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*
- Spiritual power is found in the power of prayer and having access to God. *Ephesians 3:12 In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.*
- Gospel privilege is found in being able to do all things through Christ. *Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me.*