

My identity and inheritance in Christ:

Our identity in Christ is very important. One difference to notice between this list and other identity-in-Christ lists is the existence of some 'IF' statements on the list, where certain aspects of our identity are based on our responses to God. This is very important – other identity-in-Christ teachings ignore the biblical reality of these 'IF's.

A. My relationship with God:

1. **I am deeply loved by God.** (Rom 5:8; John 3:16; 16:27)
2. **I am a child of God.** (John 1:12; Rom 8:14; Gal 3:26; 4:6)
3. **Because of Christ's death I can now approach God and be close to Him** (Eph 2:13; Heb 10:19-22) – **but I am not casual about this; I must submit to Him** (James 4:7) **and fear Him** (Ps 111:10; Matt 10:28; 2 Cor 5:11; Heb 10:31; Heb 12:28-29; Rev 14:7).
4. **I am a slave of Christ, to do His will (not my own).** (1 Cor 7:22; Eph. 3:1; 4:1; Rom 1:1)
5. **I am a saint, which means I am one of God's people.** (Eph. 1:1; 1 Cor. 1:2; Phil. 1:1; Col. 1:2)
6. **Christ will be my friend IF I love and serve Him instead of the world.** (John 15:14-15; James 4:4)
7. **God loves to hear and answer my prayers.** (Matt 7:7-11; John 16:24; 1 Pet 5:7)

B. My value as a person:

1. **I have tremendous value and worth because I am made in God's image.** (Gen 1:26-27)
2. **I am God's workmanship, His masterpiece and His handiwork.** (Eph. 2:10; Ps 139:13-16)
3. **I am fearfully and wonderfully made.** (Ps 139:14)
4. **I am not an accident.** (Ps 139:16; Eph 1:4)
5. **I am chosen.** (John 15:16)
6. **I have been bought at an expensive price (Jesus' blood); I am not my own, I belong to Christ.** (1 Cor. 6:19-20)
7. **I am a temple, a dwelling place of God, His Spirit and His life lives in me!** (1 Cor. 3:16; 6:19)

C. My behavior:

1. **I fear God.** (Ps 111:10; Matt 10:28; 2 Cor 5:11; Heb 10:31; Heb 12:28-29; Rev 14:7)
2. **I hate sin.** (Ps 97:10; Prov 8:13; Rom 12:9)
3. **I am responsible for all of my actions – no one else is to blame for the things I do, say and think.** (Matt 15:19; Mk 7:21)
4. **I will give an account to God some day for every one of my actions, as well as the words I speak.** (Rom 14:12; Matt 12:36; Matt 16:27; 2 Cor 5:10; Heb 10:30; Rev 3:23)
5. **I am responsible for putting to death my sinful nature** (Rom 8:13; Col 3:5); **if I do, I will be rewarded** (Matt 10:42; Lk 6:35; 1 Cor 3:14) – **but if I don't I will face discipline** (Heb 12:5-11) **or even judgment** (Heb 10:26-31).
6. **I am pursuing holiness and righteousness, in fact I 'make every effort.'** (2 Cor 7:1; Heb 4:11; 12:14; 1 Tim 6:11; 2 Tim 2:22; 2 Pet 3:14)
7. **I am not yet perfect** (1 John 1:8-10; Phil 3:12-14; James 3:2), **but I press hard for holiness** (2 Pet 3:14), **repenting of my sins whenever I fail** (1 John 1:9; 2 Chron 7:14).
8. **WHEN I repent of my sins, no condemnation awaits me for those sins.** (Rom 8:1; 2 Chron 7:14; 1 John 1:9)
9. **God is working on me to make me holy.** (Heb 12:10-11; Phil 2:13)
10. **I am called to be holy.** (1 Pet 1:15-16; Heb 12:14; 1 Thess 4:7)
11. **God will succeed in making me holy (it is 'predestined') IF I continue in Him.** (Eph 1:4; Rom 8:29; Rom 11:22)
12. **I am set free from the power of sin that leads to death** (Rom 8:2), **but I must choose to activate that power by putting to death the deeds of the flesh** (Rom 8:13), **and by dying daily to my sinful/selfish desires.** (Lk 9:23)
13. **I must choose to die to myself each day.** (Lk 9:23)

14. I am a brand new creation (2 Cor. 5:17) **IF I renew my mind** (Rom 12:2) and set my mind on the things of the Spirit (Rom 8:5-6).

D. My mission & destiny:

1. The most important things God requires of me are to love mercy, do justice and walk humbly with Him. (Mic 6:8)
2. The most important thing I can do in life is love people with my words and actions. (Matt 22:38-39; 1 Cor 13; 1 John 4:7-8; 11-12)
3. I am an important and necessary member of Christ's Body. (1 Cor. 12:12-31)
4. My gifts, talents and abilities are needed in the church. (1 Cor 12:12-31)
5. God has important work for me to do. (Eph 2:10)
6. Small things done faithfully for God bring great reward. (Matt 10:42)
7. Only when I am faithful in small things does God trust me with bigger things. (Matt 25:21,23; Lk 16:10-11)

E. The resources at my disposal:

1. I am blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ. (Eph. 1:3)
2. The same power that conquered the grave lives in me. (Rom 8:11; Eph 1:19-20)
3. Christ Himself is living in me. (Col 1:27; Rev 3:20)
4. Prayer:
 - a) I can come boldly to God and ask Him for help. (Heb 4:16)
 - b) When I persist in prayer all my prayers get answered (Matt 7:7-8; Lk 11:5-10) – even impossible ones (Matt 19:26; 21:21-22) . . . *provided I am not asking for selfish things out of my love for the world* (James 4:3-4).
 - c) My prayers have tremendous power to change people, circumstances and events (James 5:16-18) . . . *provided I confess my sins* (James 5:16a) *and walk in righteousness* (James 5:16b).
 - d) If I ask God for wisdom and direction, He will give it to me (James 1:5; Prov 2:1-7) . . . *provided I believe and persist instead of doubting and giving up* (James 1:6-8).

F. My relationship to this world and the devil:

1. I rejoice in all the trials and struggles I face in this world because they form my character (James 1:2-4), and God turns each one for my good **IF** I genuinely love Him and want to please Him (Rom 8:28).
2. **IF** I obey Christ, then I am more than a conqueror in every trial, tribulation and obstacle that life throws at me. (Rom 8:37-39)
3. I am an alien and stranger to this world in which I temporarily live – I don't fit here. (1 Pet 2:11)
4. If I truly follow Jesus, this world will hate and reject me. (Matt 10:22; John 15:18-20)
5. I must not love this world, or any of the things in it, because it is all passing away and will not satisfy me. (1 John 2:15-17)
6. **WHEN** I am submitted to God the devil must flee from me, and cannot harm me. (James 4:8; 1 John 5:18)
7. **WHEN** I am submitted to God I have authority over the evil one. (Lk 9:1; 10:19)