

IN CHRIST

“In Christ” you have met the condition for salvation. The condition is that you cooperate with Holy Spirit conviction and allow the Spirit to bring you to belief in Jesus and to receive Jesus.

The result is that you are born again into a relationship with Jesus, you are no longer solely in Adam, you are indwelled by the Holy Spirit, and you have eternal life.

John 1:12 To all who received Jesus, He gave the right to become children of God, born of God.

“In Christ” you are chosen by God the Father to a completed salvation with three stages. These stages are justification, sanctification, and glorification. God promises to complete the stages unconditionally in all those He began His work in.

Ephesians 1:4 For He (the Father) chose us in Him (the Son) to be holy and blameless in His sight, and God designed this plan before the foundation of the world.

This means that God determined that all those who receive Jesus, that is, are “in Christ”, will be saved from sin and have eternal life. And this salvation will be completed. The new creation in Christ will be totally sinless and totally righteous in his glorified body.

Philippians 1:6 He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion.

“In Christ” the fruits of the indwelling Spirit are your tools with a “power cord.” These fruits are action words. By the power of the Holy Spirit you can produce God’s kind of love by your actions.

Galatians 5:22 (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control)

“In Christ” we do seek after God, we do works of righteousness, and we are not worthless.

Contrast this with the following:

Romans 3:10-12 There is no one righteous, not even one. There is no one who understands, there is no one who seeks after God. All have turned away, they have all become worthless, there is no one who does good, not even one.

These verses mean that God must convict us of sin, the need for righteousness, and the fact of judgment before any person will respond. And without these convictions no one would seek God. A person is worthless and does “no eternally good thing” until he cooperates with the Holy Spirit and receives Jesus becoming a new creation. God changes us. We are reconciled to God.

“In Christ” you are a child of God who still commits sin even though you have been saved from the power of sin.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sin, He is faithful and just to forgive (rescue, release us from) our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

“In Christ” you are disciplined by the hand of your Heavenly Father and you still pay for your sins due to their consequences. Hebrews 12:4-13 Do not make light of the Lord’s discipline.

Jesus paid the price for gaining the right to make you a new creation. Jesus’ sinless death condemned sin to the utmost, subdued sin and defeated sin. But Jesus was not paying for your sin so that the Father would not be angry or be able to forgive you. God never changes. Jesus died for your sins to be removed. We are being changed. We are reconciled to God by the change in us.

“In Christ” God loves you unconditionally and you can repent of sin, agree with God about your sin, turn from it, and return to living in dependence upon Christ.

John 15:5 Without Me, you can do nothing.

“In Christ” you are complete.

Colossians 2:10 You are complete in Christ who is the head of all power and authority.

Ephesians 2:10 We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works.

OUTLINE

- 1 “In Christ” you have met the condition for salvation**
- 2 “In Christ” you are chosen by the Father**
- 3 “In Christ” the fruits of the Spirit are your tools**
- 4 “In Christ” you have been saved from the power of sin**
- 5 “In Christ” you are disciplined by the Father**
- 6 “In Christ” you can be a repentant and live in dependence on Christ**
- 7 “In Christ” you are complete**