

## THE BELIEVER'S POSITION IN CHRIST

**Romans 6:3-5; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13; Galatians 3:28**

(Not entirely original with me)

**Introduction:** To live a Godly life, one must know what God has done for him/her. Understanding what God has done for believers and who the believer is in Christ is basic in having the right reasons/motives for living the Christian life. Sadly many believers never advance very far beyond the initial stage of belief, baptism and church membership. Saved, yes, indwelt with the Holy Spirit, yes, adopted as a child into God's family, yes, but never realizing just who they really are and what they have in Christ. There is a changed life that believers are to live and God's grace can enable that life to be lived if the believer only knew his/her actual standing and position in Christ.

### I. BELIEVERS SHARE IN WHAT JESUS DID AND WILL DO

1. Knowing where one stands in Jesus Christ can protect from Satan and give victory over sin.
  - As Jesus died unto sin, so believers in Jesus also have died unto sin. (*Romans 6:3*)
  - As Jesus rose from the grave, so shall believers. (*Romans 6:5*)
  - As Jesus is seated at God's right hand, so shall believers be beside Him. (*Ephesians 2:6*)
  - As Jesus is God's Son, so are believers God's children. (*Galatians 3:26*)
  - As Jesus is eternal life, so believers have eternal life. (*Romans 6:23*)
  - As Jesus is perfect righteousness, so believers have His righteousness. (*Philippians 3:9*)
2. The believer's position in Christ is by God's grace.
  - *Colossians 2:6-12; Romans 6:3-12*
3. The believer's position in Christ is complete, nothing more can be added.
  - *Ephesians 1:3; Colossians 2:10; Hebrews 5:11-14; 1 Peter 2:1-2; 2 Peter 3:18*
  - Believers are totally surrounded by Jesus.
    - *Colossians 3:3*
  - Believers are protected from everything hostile and dangerous by Jesus.
    - *Romans 8:32-39*
  - Jesus supplies believers with every possible need for their life.
    - *Ephesians 1:3; Philippians 4:19*
4. The believer's position in Jesus Christ is eternal and permanent.
  - As salvation is the work of God and there is nothing a believer can do or not do to lose it, so is the believer's position in Jesus permanent.
    - *John 10:28-30; 1 Corinthians 1:2*

### II. BELIEVERS ARE RICH BEYOND ALL MEASURE BEING IN JESUS CHRIST

1. Believers are rich because they share with Jesus Christ.
  - They share Jesus' righteousness as it has been imputed to them.
    - *2 Corinthians 5:21*
  - They share eternal life, for Jesus has/is eternal life.
    - *Romans 6:23*
  - They share Jesus' eternal destiny.
    - *Ephesians 1:4-5; 1:10-11*

- They share Jesus' kinship with God for as Jesus is the Son of God, they are children of God by adoption, regeneration, new birth.
    - *John 1:13; Ephesians 1:5; Galatians 3:26; 1 John 3:2*
  - They share being chosen because Jesus is God's chosen One.
    - *Ephesians 1:4*
  - They are heirs of God because Jesus is the Heir of God.
    - *Ephesians 1:11-14*
  - They are priests of God because Jesus is the Great High Priest of God.
    - *1 Peter 2:9*
2. Believers are rich because they share in Jesus' past, present and future work.
- Believers are restored to God's favor by Jesus' substitutionary death.
    - *Romans 5:10*
  - Believers have peace with God in Jesus.
    - *Romans 5:1*
  - Believers have Jesus' righteousness imputed to them.
    - *2 Corinthians 5:21*
  - Believers are justified, declared righteous in Jesus.
    - *Romans 5:9*
  - Believers are redeemed by Jesus' blood and have forgiveness of sin.
    - *Ephesians 1:7*
  - Jesus has met the demands of God's holiness for the believer.
    - *Romans 3:25*
  - Believers are not condemned any longer for they are in Jesus.
    - *Romans 8:1*
  - Believers have had the penalty of sin removed by Jesus' death.
    - *Colossians 2:14*
  - Believers, being in Jesus Christ, are no longer guilty or condemned by the Law and the sentence of death.
    - *Romans 7:4-6*
  - Being in Jesus Christ, believers are accepted and made fit to be partakers in God's family and inheritance.
    - *Ephesians 1:6; Colossians 1:12*
  - Being in Jesus Christ, believers have also died with Jesus in His death and burial.
    - *Romans 6:3-4; Colossians 2:12*
  - Being in Jesus Christ, the dominion of the sinful nature, though still present, has been broken.
    - *Romans 6:1-14*
  - Being in Jesus Christ, believers have been raised together with Him in His resurrection.
    - *Ephesians 2:5-6*
  - Being in Jesus Christ, believers have been raised with Him to walk in newness of life.
    - *Romans 6:8-12; Colossians 2:12*
  - Being in Jesus Christ, believers are seated with Him in the heavenlies at the right hand of the Father.
    - *Ephesians 2:6*
  - Being in Jesus Christ, believers have direct, eternal access to God.
    - *Ephesians 2:18; 3:12*

- Being in Jesus Christ, believers have a permanent, effective High Priest, advocate, intercessors, Jesus, the Son of God and the Holy Spirit.  
- **Romans 8:26-27**
- Being in Jesus Christ, believers are truly the Children of God.  
- **1 Peter 2:5; 2:10; Hebrews 1:9; 2:11-13**

### III. USING THE POSITION OF BEING IN JESUS CHRIST

1. The believer must overcome the pulling of sin and the wants of the flesh through obedience.  
- **Romans 6:1-18**  
- The believer must know what it is to be in Jesus Christ.  
- The believer must rely on the spiritual realities of being in Jesus Christ by faith.  
- The believer, knowing and believing him/herself to be in Jesus Christ, must present him/herself to God in obedience.  
- **Romans 8:1-13; 6:13; Galatians 5:16; 22-23**
2. The believer must follow Jesus Christ's example rather than his/her own ideas or those of others.  
- **1 Corinthians 3:3-7; 4:1-5; 2 Corinthians 10:12**
3. The believer needs to feel accepted, belonging and able to live the life in Jesus Christ that God wants.  
- Believers are accepted in Jesus Christ and have free access to God.  
- **Ephesians 1:6; 2:18; 3:12; Romans 14:3**  
- Believers belong to the family of God as adopted children.  
- **John 1:12; 1 Corinthians 3:23; Galatians 3:26-29**  
- Believers have the ability in Jesus Christ to be and do what God calls them to do.  
- **Philippians 2:12-13; 4:13**

### CONCLUSION:

1. Believers in Jesus Christ are complete in Christ and there is nothing that can be added to gain salvation or to keep it. Believers are saved by what Jesus did, does and shall do, not anybody else's works.
2. There is nothing the believer can add to what Jesus has done or to their life in Jesus Christ in order to walk with God and experience extra spirituality of some sort.
3. The believer's life is hidden completely and permanently in God through being in Jesus Christ.  
- **Colossians 3:1-3**
4. To experience the new, transformed life found in Jesus Christ, the believer must understand and rely on who he/she is in Jesus Christ and how that affects his/her walk in life.
5. The believer in Jesus Christ can have a wonderful, full, exciting, productive life for God IF he/she will allow the Holy Spirit to do His Work.