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Fourth Baptist Church*

## **In Christ I Am . . . A New Creature**

2 Corinthians 5:17

Neither our public reputation nor our personal perception defines who we are in Christ. The believer's proper view of self (self-worth, self-esteem) must be seen from their position in Christ.

I. I am \_\_\_\_\_ in God's Image (Gen 1:26-27)

II. I am \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ's Image (2 Cor 5:17)

A. A new \_\_\_\_\_ identity (Col 3:10a)

B. A new \_\_\_\_\_ identity (Col 3:10b)

C. A new \_\_\_\_\_ identity (Col 3:10c)

D. A new \_\_\_\_\_ identity (Col 3:10d)

Since man has sinned, he is certainly not as fully like God as he was before. His moral purity has been lost and his sinful character certainly does not reflect God's holiness. His intellect is corrupted by falsehood and misunderstanding; his speech no longer continually glorifies God; his relationships are often governed by selfishness rather than love, and so forth. Though man is still in the image of God, in every aspect of life *some* parts of that image have been distorted or lost.

- Wayne Grudem

Two exceedingly important truths emerge . . . regarding that image in which man was created, namely, (a) that fallen man bears the inalienable image of God, and (b) that man is injured by the fall to the extent that only redeeming grace can rescue him.

- Lewis Sperry Chafer

I am not what I ought to be. How imperfect and deficient I am! I am not what I wish to be, although I abhor that which is evil and would cleave to what is good. I am not what I hope to be, but soon I shall put off mortality, and with it all sin. Though I am not what I ought to be, nor what I wish to be, nor yet what I hope to be, I can truly say I am not what I once was: a slave to sin and Satan. I can heartily join with the apostle and acknowledge that by the grace of God I am what I am!

- John Newton