

What Does it Mean to Be “in Christ?”

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Introduction

1. Ephesians 1:3
2. The phrase “in Christ” is used many times throughout the New Testament 78 X in 77 verses
3. What does it mean to be “in Christ?”
4. Throughout time God has located His blessing, thus God’s people had to be in that place. Exodus 20:24; Deuteronomy 12:5-7
5. Thus there we can only be in one of two places Matthew 12:30
 - a. We are in the His kingdom or in the power of darkness Colossians 1:13
 - b. We are in the strait gate or the broad way Matthew 7:13-14
6. Let us notice that we must be in the right place to receive the blessings of God, there are blessings by being “in Christ” then finally how do we get “in Christ.”

II Discussion

1. One had to be in the right place to receive the blessings of God
 - a. In the case of the flood, notice the word “wherein” 1 Peter 3:20
 - b. In the case of Elijah by the brook Cherith and the ravens fed him there 1 Kings 17:3-4
 - c. In the case of Elijah the widow would sustain him “there” I Kings 17:9-10
 - d. In the case of Naaman, the blessings were located in the correct river 2 Kings 5:10-12
 - e. In the case of the blind man, he had to wash “in the pool of Siloam” to see John 9:7
2. The blessings for us are “in Christ”
 - a. All spiritual blessings are “in Christ” Ephesians 1:3; we could call these the unsearchable riches of Christ Ephesians 3:8
 - b. We have a new life Ephesians 1:4; 2 Corinthians 5:17
 - c. We are a child of God Ephesians 1:5; Romans 8:15
 - d. We have the right to an inheritance Ephesians 1:11; John 14:1-3
 - e. We have redemption, the forgiveness of sins Ephesians 1:7; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 1:18-19
 - f. Salvation is only “in Christ” 2 Timothy 2:10; Acts 4:12
 - g. Means I have membership in the Lord’s church 1 Corinthians 1:2
3. How does one get “into Christ?”
 - a. One must hear the Gospel Romans 10:17
 - b. One must repent of sins committed Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30-31
 - c. One must confess that Jesus in the Christ Romans 10:9-10
 - d. One must be baptized Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
 - e. One must live faithful Revelation 2:10

III Conclusion

1. When one is “in Christ” he is ready to meet God Revelation 14:13
2. Are you “in Christ” this day? If not why?
3. If you have been “in Christ” but have left this blessed fellowship then come back

Sources: Old sermons preached: Hazel KY 5/15/83; Batesville MS 11/23/86; Cleveland 2008
Sermon from someone else unknown time and place