

## **Ephesians**

### **Week Two**

#### *The Importance of Identity*

Ephesians 1:3-14 (part one)

Pastor Steve Treichler

January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 (8:30 and 10:30am), FB Live (10am)

*For His Glory and our joy!*

#### Online Description of Message:

What is it that ultimately makes you “ok”? How can we anchor our personal identity in something that is not fleeting and unreliable? This week we will look at the simple little phrase “in Christ” used throughout the letter of Ephesians that, when understood properly, makes all the difference in understanding our amazing identity in Christ!

#### Passage:

#### **Ephesians 1:3-14**

<sup>3</sup>Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. <sup>4</sup>For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love <sup>5</sup>he predestined us for adoption to sonship <sup>n</sup> through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—<sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, <sup>9</sup>he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, <sup>10</sup>to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

<sup>11</sup>In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, <sup>12</sup>in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup>who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.

Message Notes:

**Introduction** – *“Identity Theft”*

**Today’s Message:**

*The Importance of Identity*

Ephesians 1:3-14 (part one)

All these spiritual blessing are ours IN CHRIST.

BQ TODAY? What does Paul mean by “in Christ”?

*On our own we are NOT ok.*

**God justifies the ungodly in Christ!**

Romans 4:5

**Jesus and Union with Him**

John 10:27-30

John 15:5

**Paul and Union with Christ**

Philippians 3:8-9

1 Corinthians 1:30

2 Corinthians 5:17

Galatians 4:4-5

Romans 6:1-14

**How is the “bratwurst of our salvation” actually made?**

Galatians 2:19-21

1. Dying to the law
2. So that I might live for God
3. Crucified with Christ
4. Righteousness is NOT from me

**Gospel Implication:**

YOU ARE NOT ALONE!!

1. *In your status with God (Justification)*
2. *In your relationship with God (Redemption/Adoption)*
3. *In your life in God (Sanctification)*

**Gospel Application:** *Are you ok in Jesus?*

## Scripture Passages used (New International Version)

### **Romans 4:5**

<sup>5</sup>However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness.

### **John 10:27-30**

<sup>27</sup>My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup>My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. <sup>30</sup>I and the Father are one."

### **John 15:5**

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

### **Philippians 3:8-9**

<sup>8</sup>What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.

### **1 Corinthians 1:30**

It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.

### **2 Corinthians 5:17**

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

### **Galatians 4:4-5**

<sup>4</sup>But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.

### **Romans 6:1-14**

<sup>1</sup>What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup>By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? <sup>3</sup>Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. <sup>5</sup>If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. <sup>6</sup>For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—<sup>7</sup>because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. <sup>8</sup>Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. <sup>10</sup>The death

he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. <sup>12</sup>Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. <sup>13</sup>Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness. <sup>14</sup>For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.

### **Galatians 2:19-21**

<sup>19</sup>“For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. <sup>20</sup>I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. <sup>21</sup>I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!”

#### Quotes (used or referred to):

Union with Christ is . . . the central truth of the whole doctrine of salvation. . . . It is not simply a phase of the application of redemption; it underlies every aspect of redemption.

~ John Murray, *Redemption—Accomplished and Applied* [Eerdmans, 1955], pp. 201, 205.

For years I have taught students that one of the most important items in Paul’s Theological vocabulary is the two-letter word **ἐν** [*in*], despite the failure of so many writers to pick it up.

~ I. Howard Marshall, Professor Emeritus of New Testament, University of Aberdeen

Whatever you have of life was not given you till you came into union with Christ. It is a new thing—as new as though you had been actually dead and rotted in the tomb and then had started up at the sound of the trumpet to live again.

~ Charles Spurgeon, *Christus et Ego* sermon on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 1867

[Union with Christ] is at once the center and circumference of authentic human existence.

~ Lewis Smedes, *Union with Christ* [Eerdmans, 1983], xii.

Once you have your eyes opened to this concept of union with Christ, you will find it almost everywhere in the New Testament.

~ Anthony Hoekema, *Saved by Grace* [Eerdmans, 1989], 64.

During the marriage ceremony, when a man and woman stand before the minister, they are two separate individuals. At the end of the ceremony, however, they are pronounced “husband and wife.” They are united; and the two become “one flesh” (Gen. 2:7; Eph. 5:25–31). The property of each individual becomes the property of both. But in our marriage union to Christ, the glorious exchange is far greater. Our sin and guilt are imputed to Christ, and His perfect law-keeping and suffering are imputed to us—what is ours becomes His, and what is His becomes

ours. Because of the representative union that we share with Christ, the Father no longer looks upon us as sinful but sees only the righteousness and holiness of Christ.

~ J. V. Fesko, "Union with Christ in Paul's Epistles," *Tabletalk Magazine, February 2013: Union with Christ* (Sanford, FL: Ligonier Ministries, 2013), 14.

To live by grace is to live solely by the merit of Jesus Christ. To live by grace is to base my entire relationship with God, including my acceptance and standing with Him, on my union with Christ.

~ Jerry Bridges, *Transforming Grace: Living Confidently in God's Unfailing Love*", p.59, Tyndale House



*Ephesians*

## Ephesians 1:3-14

<sup>3</sup>Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. <sup>4</sup>For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love <sup>5</sup>he predestined us for adoption to sonship <sup>n</sup> through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will – <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us.

## **Ephesians 1:3-14**

With all wisdom and understanding, <sup>9</sup>he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, <sup>10</sup>to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment – to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

## Ephesians 1:3-14

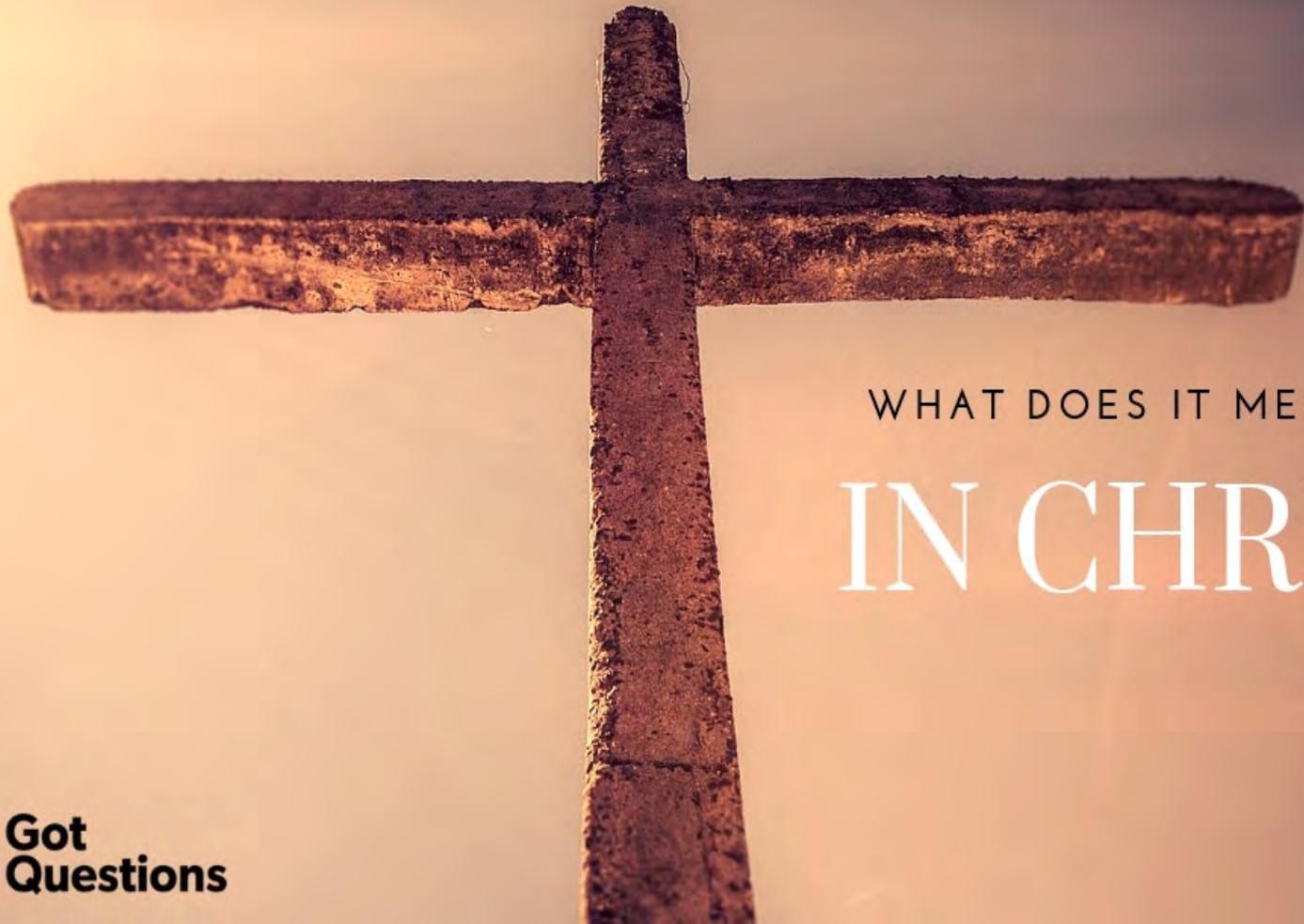
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WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE  
**IN CHRIST?**

us I'm Ok In Jesus I'm Ok In Jesus I'm Ok In Jesus I'm Ok In Jesus  
In Jesus I'm Ok In Jesus I'm Ok In Jesus I'm Ok In Jesus  
n Ok In Jesus I'm Ok In Jesus I'm Ok In Jesus **I'm Ok In Jesus**  
as **I'm Ok In Jesus** I'm Ok In Jesus I'm Ok In Jesus  
m Ok In Jesus I'm 'm Ok In Jesus I'm Ok In Jesus  
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Jesus I'm Ok In Jesus I'm Ok In Jesus I'm Ok In Jesus

I'm Ok In Jesus **I'm Ok In Jesus** I'm Ok In Jesus  
us I'm Ok In Jesus **I'm Ok In Jesus** I'm Ok In Jesus I'm Ok In Jesus  
as I'm Ok In Jesus **I'm Ok In Jesus** I'm Ok In Jesus

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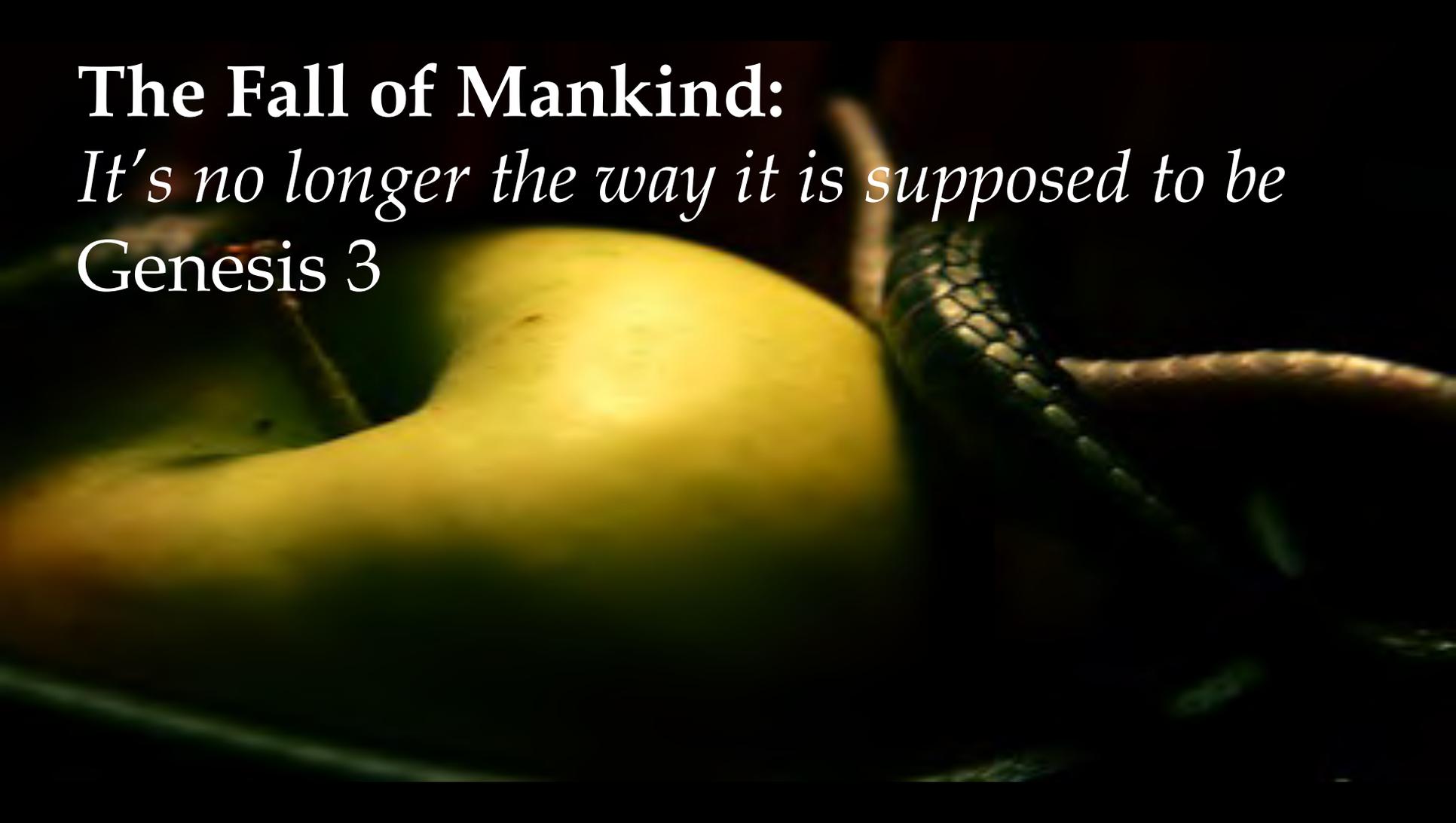


**UNION WITH CHRIST**

# The Fall of Mankind:

*It's no longer the way it is supposed to be*

Genesis 3



*I'm*

**NOT**

*okay*

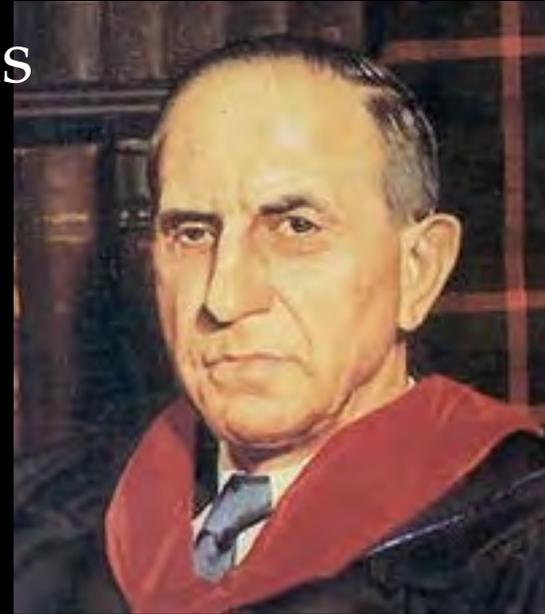
*on my own*

## Romans 4:5

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<sup>8</sup>Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. <sup>10</sup>The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

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# How It's Made







**How the “bratwurst of ok-ness” is made**

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## Galatians 2:19-21

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# How the “bratwurst of ok-ness” is made

## 1. Dying to the Law

### Galatians 2:19-21

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# How the “bratwurst of ok-ness” is made

## 2. So that I might live for God

### Galatians 2:19-21

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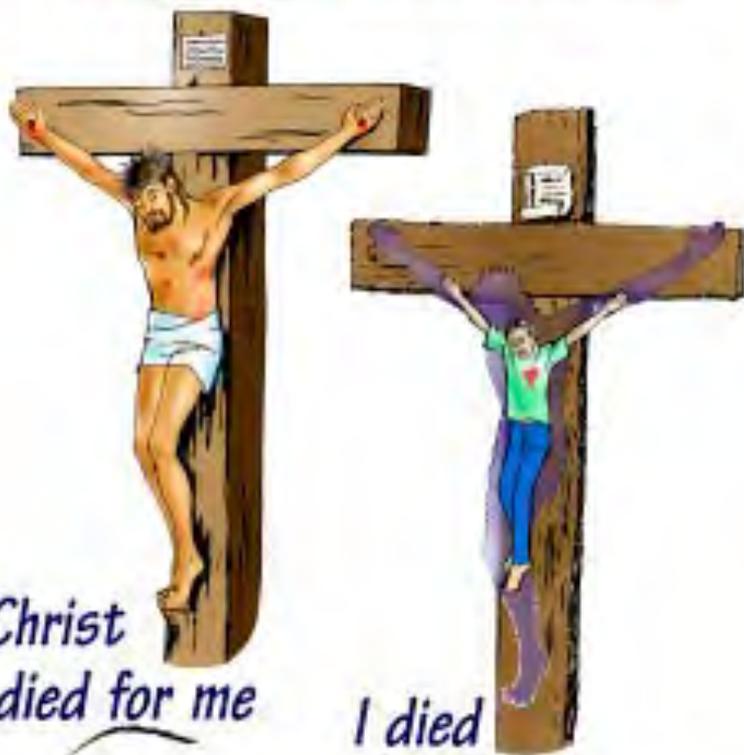
# How the “bratwurst of ok-ness” is made

## 3. Crucified with Christ

### Galatians 2:19-21

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# Two Great Facts



*Christ  
died for me*

*I died  
with Him*

# How the “bratwurst of ok-ness” is made

## 4. Righteousness is NOT from me

### Galatians 2:19-21

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~ J. V. Fesko, “Union with Christ in Paul’s Epistles,” *Tabletalk Magazine*, February 2013: *Union with Christ* (Sanford, FL: Ligonier Ministries, 2013), 14.

Gospel Implication:

**YOU ARE NOT ALONE**

**Label**

(See instructions on page 14.)

**Use the IRS label.**

Otherwise, please print or type.

L  
A  
B  
E  
L  
  
H  
E  
R  
E

For the year Jan. 1–Dec. 31, 2008, or other tax year beginning \_\_\_\_\_, 2008, ending \_\_\_\_\_, 20

OMB No.

Your first name and initial

Last name

Your social security number

If a joint return, spouse's first name and initial

Last name

Spouse's social security number

Home address (number and street). If you have a P.O. box, see page 14.

Apt. no.

**▲ You must provide your SSN.**

City, town or post office, state, and ZIP code. If you have a foreign address, see page 14.

Checking a box on this line may change your tax status.

**Presidential Election Campaign**

Check here if you, or your spouse if filing jointly, want \$3 to go to this fund (see page 14)  **You**

**Filing Status**

Check only one box.

- 1  Single
- 2  Married filing jointly (even if only one had income)
- 3  Married filing separately. Enter spouse's SSN above and full name here. ▶
- 4  Head of household (with qualifying person). Enter the qualifying person is a child but not your dependent. Enter this child's name here. ▶
- 5  Qualifying widow(er) with dependent child

**Exemptions**

- 6a  Yourself. If someone can claim you as a dependent, **do not** check box 6a . . . . .
- b  Spouse . . . . .

c Dependents:		(2) Dependent's social security number	(3) Dependent's relationship to you	(4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> if qualifying child for child tax credit (see page 17)
(1) First name	Last name			
		⋮		<input type="checkbox"/>
		⋮		<input type="checkbox"/>
		⋮		<input type="checkbox"/>
		⋮		<input type="checkbox"/>

If more than four dependents, see page 17.

Boxes 6a and 6b are on 6a and 6b. No. of dependents on 6c will be used to determine if you are eligible for the dependent exemption. If you are not eligible, you do not enter the number of dependents on 6c.

Filing Status:  
*Single*

ME-----LAW-----GOD

Filing Status:  
*Single*

JESUS-----LAW-----GOD

Filing Status:  
*Married*

ME & JESUS-----LAW-----GOD

**Filing Status:**  
*Married*

**ME & JESUS-----LAW-----GOD**

**Galatians 4:4-5**

<sup>4</sup>But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, <sup>5</sup>to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

Filing Status:  
*Married*

ME & JESUS-----GRACE-----GOD

# Gospel Implication:

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**You are not alone**

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*In your status with God (Justification)*

# Gospel Implication:

**You are not alone**

*In your status with God (Justification)*

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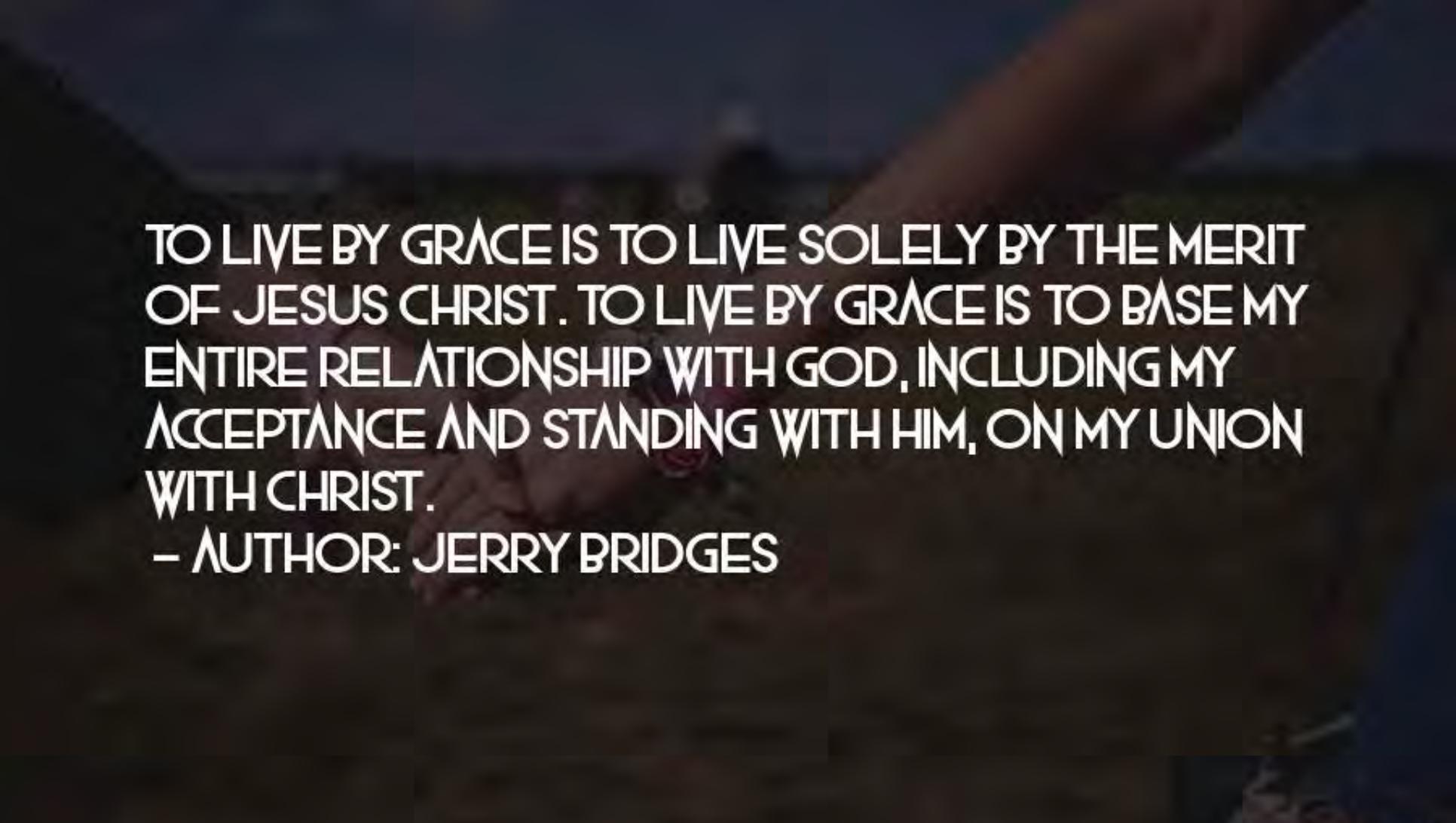
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*In your relationship with God  
(Redemption/Adoption)*

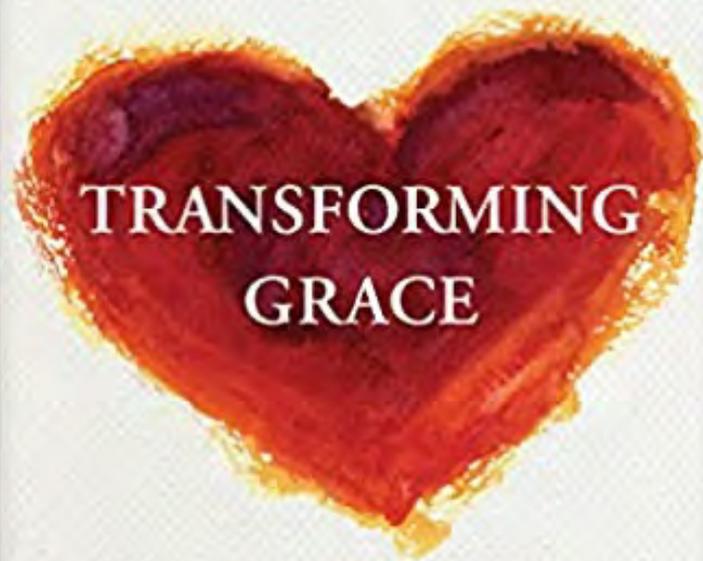
*In your life in God (Sanctification)*



TO LIVE BY GRACE IS TO LIVE SOLELY BY THE MERIT  
OF JESUS CHRIST. TO LIVE BY GRACE IS TO BASE MY  
ENTIRE RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, INCLUDING MY  
ACCEPTANCE AND STANDING WITH HIM, ON MY UNION  
WITH CHRIST.

– AUTHOR: JERRY BRIDGES

OVER 300,000 SOLD



TRANSFORMING  
GRACE

JERRY BRIDGES

# Gospel-Centered Application:

*Are You OK in Jesus?*