

Identity I (Outline Format)

By Rene P. Brown

I. What is our identity?

A. Unbelievers

1. Sinner (with a sin nature)

Rom 3:7 (RSV) "But if through my falsehood God's truthfulness abounds to his glory, why am I still being condemned as a sinner?"

2. Lost (separated from God)

Luke 19:10 (RSV) "For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."

3. Dead in sins and trespasses

Eph 2:5 (NKJV) "even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),"

Col 2:13 (RSV) "And you, who were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses,"

4. Dead have dead spirits meaning their spirit is separated from God

When Adam sinned, his spirit was separated from God and thus "died". Rom 5:12 (NKJV) "Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned;"

B. Believers in Christ

1. Righteousness of God

2Cor 5:21 (RSV) "For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

2. Holy and beloved

Col 3:12 (RSV) "Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience,"

3. Complete in Him

Col 2:10 (NKJV) "and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power."

4. Blameless

Col 1:22 (NKJV) "in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight;"

II. When Is This Identity Achieved?

(When does it become our identity?)

A. Identity is always present tense.

1. If a sinner, is a sinner right now and will be a sinner so long as we are without Christ.

2. If saved and in Christ, our identity is believer - right now - and will be.

B. **Believers in Christ**, those who have truly trusted in Him for salvation, are immediately re-born in their spirits. (John 3:3 NKJV) "Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.""

1. Spirit is made alive - immediately

2. Spirit is connected to God - now.

3. Sons Gal 3:26 (RSV) "for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith."

4. 1 Pet 1:23 (NKJV) "having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,"

C. We are holy - immediately

1. 1 Cor 3:17 (RSV) "If any one destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and that temple you are." 2. 1 Pet 1:16 (RSV) "since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy.""

D. Beloved

1. Eph 5:1 (RSV) "Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children."
2. Cleansed – Now
3. Eph 5:26 (RSV) "that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word," ²⁷(RSV) "that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish."

III. How Is Identity Achieved?

A. Believe on the Lord Jesus

John 6:29 (RSV) "Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."

B. Repent

Acts 2:38 (RSV) "And Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

When a person turns from his life now and turns to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, he indeed has repented, has turned around and is not going another direction in life.

C. Believe and Confess

Rom 10:9 (RSV) "because, if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

IV. What Happened in You and To You?

A. Forgiveness of Sins

Mat 26:28 (RSV) "for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."

Acts 22:16 (RSV) "And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on his name."

1Cor 6:11 (RSV) "And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God."

B. Simplicity of the Gospel

1Cor 15:3 (RSV) "For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures," 4 (RSV) "that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures,"

C. Made Alive

Eph 2:1 (RSV) "And you he made alive, when you were dead through the trespasses and sins"

Mat 26:28 (RSV) "for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."

Acts 10:43 (RSV) "To him all the prophets bear witness that every one who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

V. Given New Nature

A. **From Adam we inherited a sin nature**

Rom 5:12

B. **Men with sin nature sin as a matter of course.**

Eph 2:3 (NKJV) "among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others."

C. **They do not have to choose to sin, it is their nature.**

Dogs bark because it is their nature.

Lost men sin because it is their nature.

No decision to sin is necessary.

D. **Men go to hell because of sin nature, not because of sins.**

E. **New Nature**

2 Pet 1:4 (NKJV) "by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." Our spirit is made alive. Our spirit is indwelt by God Himself.

F. **With New Nature, we can choose not to sin.**

Rom 6:14 (NKJV) "For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace."

*****End of Lesson*****