
IN
Christ

To be ‘in Christ’ means that by grace, through faith and by the Holy Spirit a believer is united to Jesus Christ in such a way that His history becomes our history.

His righteousness becomes our righteousness.

His life becomes our life.

His Father becomes our Father.

His inheritance becomes our inheritance.

His future becomes our future.

All that Christ has accomplished is shared with those who are united to Him.

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IN Christ

EPHESIANS 1:3-14 (NIV)

“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. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfilment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

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IN Christ

EPHESIANS 1:3-14 (NIV)

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, in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. 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, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory."

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IN Christ

EPHESIANS 1:13 (NIV)

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…

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Four things a seal did:

1. It said this is mine (ownership)
2. It said this is real (authenticity)
3. It said this is safe (security)
4. It said this has authority (mandate)

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IN Christ

The Holy Spirit does:

- something **to** us.
- something **in** us.
- something **through** us.

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IN Christ

1. The Holy Spirit does something to us.

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The seal says you belong.

ROMANS 8:9 (NIV)

“If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ.”

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The seal says you're genuine.

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The seal says you're safe.

EPHESIANS 4:30 (NIV)

"…with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption."

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EPHESIANS 1:14 (NIV)

“…who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.”

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2 CORINTHIANS 1:22 (NIV)

“…set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.”

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2. The Holy Spirit does something in us.

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He changes how we see God.

ROMANS 8:15-16 (NIV)

The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear. again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.

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He grows His character in us.

GALATIANS 5:22-23 (NIV)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

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He keeps on filling us.

LUKE 3:16 (NIV)

John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

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What keeps us from coming back?

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IN Christ

Fear

LUKE 11:11-13 (NIV)

“Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

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Comfort

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IN Christ

Cynicism

1 THESSALONIANS 5:19-21 (NIV)

Do not quench the Spirit. Do not treat prophecies with contempt but test them all; hold on to what is good.

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IN Christ

3. The Holy Spirit does something through us.

JOHN 20:21-22 (NIV)

Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

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We’re sent in the power of the Holy Spirit.

LUKE 4:14 (NIV)

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside.

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LUKE 4:18 (NIV)

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free…”

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We’re sent to be near, to do good, and to share good news.

ACTS 10:38 (NIV)

“…he went around doing good…”

2 CORINTHIANS 5:20 (NIV)

“We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us…”

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We’re sent with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 10:37-39 (NIV)

You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached—how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:7 (NIV)

Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

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1 CORINTHIANS 12:8-10 (NIV)

To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues.

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