

## DO YOU KNOW WHO WE ARE?

Text: Josh 9:8

8 "We are your servants," they said to Joshua. But Joshua asked, "Who are you and where do you come from?"

Introduction: I was thinking about what I would preach today. I could talk to you about a lot of things that are very important but I wondered if you really know who you are in Christ.

Think about it. If you and I are not confident about who we really are in our new relationship in Christ then we will just flounder around and not make much difference in our world and in the end we may end up lost ourselves. So follow along with me and let me see if I can point out to you just who you are in Christ.

I. Who We Were.

A. Slaves.

Deut 6:21 tell him: "We were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, but the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand.

B. Overwhelmed by sins.

Ps 65:3 When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions.

C. Sinners.

Rom 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

D. God's enemies.

Rom 5:10 "For if, when we were God's enemies..."

E. Alienated.

Col 1:21 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.

F. Controlled by our sinful nature.

Rom 7:5 For when we were controlled by the sinful nature, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in our bodies, so that we bore fruit for death.

G. Paul told the folks at Ephesus:

1. Called the "uncircumcised."

2. Separate from Christ.
3. Excluded from citizenship in Israel.
4. Foreigners to the covenants.
5. Without hope and
6. Without God.

Eph 2:11 Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (that done in the body by the hands of men)—  
 12 remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.

H. We were a mess and we were in a mess and we were headed for a very messy place.

I. But God sent Jesus.

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

6 Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father."

II. Who We Are – Really Are.

A. Witnesses of God's work of salvation.

Acts 5:30 The God of our fathers raised Jesus from the dead — whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree.

31 God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might give repentance and forgiveness of sins to Israel.

32 We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

B. God's children.

Rom 8:16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

C. Heirs and joint-heirs with Christ.

Rom 8:17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs — heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

D. We are more than conquerors.

Rom 8:37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

E. Nothing can separate us from God and His love.

Rom 8:38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers,

39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

F. We proclaim salvation by faith in Jesus Christ.

Rom 10:8-10

8 But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming:

9 That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

G. We are God's partners.

1 Cor 3:9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building.

H. We are:

1. The redeemed of the Lord.
2. The Blood-bought saints of God.
3. The Spirit-filled and Spirit-led people of God.
4. The Bride of Christ.

Conclusion: We are looking for a city whose builder and maker is God.

We are listening for the Call and the sound of the trumpet of God.

We are God's anointed healers and deliverers.

We are ready witnesses.

We are prayed up, paid up and ready to go up.  
We are cloud watchers  
We are prayer warriors.  
We are God's ambassadors.  
We are the Church.  
We are the Family of God.  
We are the citizens of the New Jerusalem.

Can I add a little more titles for you to consider.

We were made a little lower than the angels.  
We bask in God's love.  
We can do all things through Christ that strengthens us.  
We delight in His law.  
We eagerly await His return.  
We forgive and forget.  
We give liberally.  
We have HOPE.  
We Imitate Christ.  
We jump for JOY  
We Keep our eyes on the hills from which cometh our help.  
We love others even as Christ first loved us.  
We mourn with those who mourn.  
We Name the Name that is above every other name – JESUS.  
We Obey the Word. We Praise Him at all times.  
We Quiet our hearts with the melodies of His love.  
We Rejoice in the Lord Always.  
We Stretch forth our hands in worship daily.  
We Teach the Gospel to all peoples.  
We Utter His praises in our own languages and in the  
languages of Heaven as the Spirit gives the utterance.  
We are Victorious – live victoriously.  
We Witness the Good News everywhere we go.  
We Xpress our thanks to the Lord at all times.  
We Yield to the Spirit. We have the Zeal of the Lord in our  
lives.

WE ARE:  
ANXIOUSLY AWAITING HIS RETURN  
BELIEVERS  
CONFIDENT  
DEDICATED  
EXPECTING GREAT THINGS  
FAITHFUL  
GENEROUS  
HOLY  
INTERCESSORS  
JOYFUL  
KIND  
LONGSUFFERING  
MIGHTY  
NOT NERVOUS  
OPEN TO THE SPIRIT'S LEADING  
POWERFUL  
QUICK TO QUOTE THE GOD'S PROMISES  
RESILIENT AND RESTING IN HIM  
SAVED  
TRIUMPHANT  
UTTERERS OF HOLY SPIRIT LANGUAGES  
VOTERS  
WINNERS  
'XTRAORDINARY  
YEARNERS, DESIRING TO SEE HIS FACE  
WE ARE GOING TO ZIP THROUGH THE CLOUDS  
WHEN HE ZAPS US AT THE TRUMPET SOUND