**Second Dimension – Christianity Experienced**

**Segment IV – *Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of our Faith* Progressive Bible Concepts - #42 “The Identity of the Believer”**

**Thoughts on Identity:**

**Quote:**

* I am not who \_\_\_ think I am!
* I am not who \_\_\_ think I am!
* But I am who \_\_\_ think \_\_\_ think I am!

**Discussion Questions:**

* Who is the most important person in your life?
* Insight – we tend to see ourselves the way the most important person in our life sees us.

**Thoughts on Identity:**

* Entity – a self-c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ object or person
* Identify – d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who someone is, defining oneself
* Identity – c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of entity (who you are) and identify (how you define yourself)
* Hence, identity is the definition or sense of self based upon personal m\_\_\_\_\_\_-u\_\_(real or perceived)
* Every person has d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ qualities or character traits

 Examples - fingerprint, DNA, blood type, etc

* Everyone has a distinct personality – Self concept is established by psychological i\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ which comprises a definition of personhood

**Personal Identity – Reflections:**

* Definition – m\_\_\_\_\_\_-u\_\_ of one’s personhood
* Flows out of the question – “W\_\_\_\_ am I?”
* The issue is selfhood – cultural notion is that selfhood is determined by how you f\_\_\_\_\_\_ about yourself
* Self-i\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – how you perceive yourself, self concept
* Western culture is perceived as a culture of s\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Personal Identity – Reflections:**

**Western culture is perceived as a culture of s\_\_\_\_\_\_:**

* Self \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
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**Personal Identity – Formations**

**How our self concept is formed:**

* Events and experiences s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ our lives
* We develop a collective self perception based upon how we i\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ these events and experiences
* We tend to be shaped, not by the things we have done, but by the things that have been done **to** us
* We tend to place more weight on the n\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ things that happened to us
* We tend to think negatively about ourselves when we are denied something n\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in life (no such thing as normal)
* We can reap bad decisions for e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ periods of time

**Personal Identity – Reformation:**

* For Christians, the identity questions must be answered by r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ wrong perceptions and e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the truth of Scripture
* Who I am not:
	+ The s\_\_\_\_ t\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of myself perceptions
	+ The a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ facts of my life history
	+ What o\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ believe about me
* Whose I am not – I am not my o\_\_\_\_ – I Cor 6:20 – Life is not about m\_\_\_
* Who I am – what God, my C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ thinks about me
* Whose I am:
	+ I am God’s c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ bought with an i\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ price, set apart for eternal purposes
	+ I am the c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of God – “God don’t make no j\_\_\_\_\_\_”

**Identity and Design:**

* Definition – m\_\_\_\_\_\_-u\_\_ of one’s personhood
* C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the image of God – *“And God created man in his own image; in the image of God He created Him…”* Gen 1:27
* R\_\_-c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the image of Christ
* *“…and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the i\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the One who created Him…”* Eph 4:24
* *“…put on the new self, which in the l\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.”* Col 3:10
* *P\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the image of God –* Phil 3:20,21
* *“For our citizenship is in heaven from which also we eagerly wait for a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory…”*

**Identity and Salvation – Core Text:**

* *“I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in Me; and the life that I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God; who loved me and delivered Himself up for me.”* Gal 2:20
* *I have been crucified with Christ – sunestaupomai –* perf ind passive - Signifies a j\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of crucifixion – a past, completed event that has ongoing, present tense effects
* *‘It is no longer I who Live’ –* I (ego) ou(not) eti(longer) live (pre act ind); the ‘I’ in me has d\_\_\_\_\_\_
* *‘But Christ lives in Me’ –* lives(pres ind act); in me(emoi) – the Christ in me l\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Paraphrase – *“Jesus and I were crucified t\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; though the ‘I’ in me died, however, the “Christ” in me lives.”*
* *‘The life I now live in the flesh’ –* my e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ existence
* *‘I live by faith in Christ’ –* my belief in Christ is my l\_\_\_\_\_\_
* *‘The Son of the God’ –* i\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ term defining Jesus with God as His son
* *‘Who loved me’ – agapsantos –* aor act part – to value in the h\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ way
* *‘And delivered Himself over’ – paradontos –* aor act part - give o\_\_\_\_\_\_
* *For Me –* on my behalf
* In the same way that Jesus (who valued me and sacrificed Himself for me) died that I might l\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Him, I d\_\_\_\_\_\_ with Him, that He might live in Me.
* This refers to the M\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ U\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of believers with Christ who are in Him by faith.
* The phrase ‘in Christ’ is found \_\_\_\_ times in Paul’s epistles.
* There are \_\_\_\_\_\_ ‘identity in Christ’ verses/references in the Bible.
* Obviously, this is a s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the Bible.
* Our i\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Christ is based upon our i\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with Christ.

**Summary** – **Concept 42**

* Fixing Our eyes upon Jesus and keeping in mind what He thinks about us legitimizes our new identity in Christ.
* God, the great I AM of the OT, and Jesus, the great I AM of the NT, is the foundation of the believers I AM statements which are foundational to the believer’s new identity.

**Next Week** – **Concept 43**

* Your Identity in Christ