

HIS OWN

Walking In the Consciousness
of your Identity in Christ



Black
Safaya

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of your Identity in Christ

IFEOMA JACK

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Please direct your enquiries to ifeomajack@gmail.com.

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Safaya Writers: safayawriters@gmail.com

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His own by .Ifeoma Jack

The Vine HolyGhost Ministry



To God, my husband, and my children.



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I deeply appreciate the people who invested in this project in one way or the other, from its conception, organization and publication. Your timeless investment inspires me to continue fulfilling my purpose and destiny.

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Thank you!



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Author's Note

I stared at him, confused. This was supposed to be an interview for the position of a writer. Why then were we talking about a childhood I so desperately did not want to remember?

“Your childhood holds a lot of repressed memory,” he had said.

I did not spend my life running from myself just to be confronted by my stark reality in a newspaper publishing house.

And in front of my interviewer.

But I was there; waiting, hoping, wishing it was just a dream. This book in your hands is my first book. I have sat down severally to put together a book or

think of one but something always caught my attention and up I go, never succeeding at accomplishing it. So, you are reading this now because I believe it's time for it; God wants me to write this book at this time.

In Zechariah 4:6-7 the Bible says, "Not by power nor by might but by my spirit says the Lord. Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel (IFEOMA) thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shouting, crying, Grace, grace unto it.

I bless God for the "grace" (His ability, enablement and empowerment) to finally not just do this but many of its kind to come. Everyone who knows me knows that I do a lot of inspired spontaneous writings; words jump at me always, and even in sleep I mumble. My older sister calls me a prolific writer "unpublished". It is laughable especially for someone who pens down every thought she lays hold of. A friend of mine who resides in the UK will always say to me, "I can't wait to read your book."

These and many more thoughts swam through my head as I sat in the newspaper publication office sometime in 2020. I had earlier booked to see the Editor-in-Chief to discuss writing Christian articles

etc. for the newspaper. The editor happened to be an elderly man, and a reputable minister of God.

As he fixed his gaze on me as though peering into my soul, amidst the conversation, he said to me, “Have you written about yourself?”

I drew back trying to weigh his words and at the same time study his countenance. When I saw the seriousness on his face, I froze realizing the man wasn't joking. *How did we go from sending in articles for publishing to getting personal?*

Still looking intensely at me, he understood my discomfort, and his voice became calming and soothing as he said, “fear not”. He wasn't asking to publish me in order to make profit off me, but was pointing to the fact that there was a lot locked in me, particularly my childhood that will be of great use. *So why then was I afraid?*

Before I could answer, my interviewer continued, “Your childhood holds a lot of repressed memories locked in there.”

The pain of losing my mum at the tender age of 6 left a long-lasting scar but for Jesus but this is story for another day. I dare say my younger years were the foundation laying season of my life though I never knew it then. The man sitting in front of me, a total

stranger told me my life, and how I was unsettled as to what I would find in those winding corridors of memories. Nevertheless, he later encouraged me to not worry as God was going to guide me through that discovery journey when the time was ripe.

As reassuring as those words were, I knew I wasn't going back there, though I had been offered the opportunity to write articles. At least, I was no longer in a hurry or should I say, that chance meeting redirected the course of my life. I spent the rest of the day pondering on our conversation, and determined to do something about some of the things he highlighted which majored on my strength.

It's been 3 years now, and thank God, I finally have the courage to pen down a few words to help the body of Christ at large. This book intends to open you up to a close-knit relationship with God and your God-family. I pray that this book blesses you and inspires a bond of love with Abba (Father God) beyond your imagination.

Love *Ifeoma*.



Chapter One

The Crisis

*They know not, neither will they understand;
they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of
the earth are out of course.*

Psalms 82:5 (KJV)

We live in a world full of battles, both within ourselves and around us. People are constantly in conflict, seeking supremacy or competing with others. Brothers turn against brothers, nations against nations, and kingdoms against kingdoms. All of these point to the end times, which we may be experiencing right now. There is currently the war between Russia and Ukraine, economic instability, and so many other global

issues.

Most importantly, we face the battle between our old nature and our new nature in Christ. This often leaves us uncertain about where we belong, knowing that we are still in this world and in this body, but not of this world. All of these struggles are the result of moving away from the foundation that should be laid in Christ.

Ephesians 2:20 reminds us that we are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Jesus Christ himself as the chief cornerstone. Moving away from this foundation has resulted in countless internal and external conflicts, as stated in our opening scripture: "***They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course***" (*Psalms 82:5 KJV*).

The Distraction (Genesis of the Problem)

Instead of focusing on finding our way back to Christ, which is where we should have never left, unfortunately, we are so self-absorbed and self-seeking that we are not looking in that direction. We dress it up, make it up, and follow all manner of doctrines and ambiguous religious rules and norms,

as expected of a believing Christian. This leaves us with multitude of spirits while still suffering on the inside. We also have many motivational and packaged conferences to address this issue, but the void remains unfilled, and the war intensifies.

WALKING IN THE CONSCIOUSNESS

The pseudo-Jesus is more interested in your external appearance than what is happening inside you.

CONSCIOUSNESS OF YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

We are presented with a pseudo-Jesus, a type who cares more about you receiving him, looking good on the outside, quoting the Bible, chasing the devil, and carrying out His bidding, while at the same time obeying sets of rules and regulations that have nothing to do with who Jesus really is.

As a result, we have people who call themselves Christians but are not Christ-like, acting like zombies with any soul or spirit. The pseudo-Jesus is more interested in your external appearance than what is happening inside you, so I ask you right here and now, "Which Jesus were you served?" To be Christ-like is more a state of being than the charade that is going on today. You must first put on a nature before the outlook.

What Jesus Is More Concerned About

Jesus is more concerned about what is going on inside of us than what we present to others. In Hebrews 10:5b, the Bible says "***Sacrifice and offering thou wouldst not, but a body hast thou prepared me.***" This means that whatever we present from a heart that is not rooted in Christ is a waste of time. That's why the focus of sin in the New Testament shifted from action to intention, as our motives are essential.

Our stability and growth come from within, but many people are still struggling with inadequacies and imaginary issues. For instance, the loss of a loved one can be painful, affecting almost everything in our lives. Some individuals are still dealing with childhood hurts, low self-esteem, and a lack of confidence. Hurt people can unintentionally hurt others, leading to personality disorders, unhealthy competition, and tearing people down instead of working together as God expects.

To move forward, we must learn to release our fears and cares, especially the fear of failure, which often holds us back. As the psalmist said in Psalm 51:10, "***Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.***"

Psalms 55:22(AMP) says to “Cast your burden on the Lord [release it] and He will sustain and uphold you; He will never allow the righteous to be shaken (slip, fall, fail).”

Again, 1 Peter 5:7 (AMP) encourages, “casting all your cares [all your anxieties, all your worries, and all your concerns, once and for all] on Him, for He cares about you [with deepest affection, and watches over you very carefully].”

When we let go and let God, we yield to the words of our great Apostle Paul to present our bodies (hearts) as a living sacrifice in Romans 12:1 (KJV), “***I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.***”

The church of God over time has learnt to deal with issues by cutting unwanted trees. Beloved a tree you cut down will definitely grow back, it is only a matter of time but uproot the tree and there'll be no chance of it growing back. We must deal with this identity crisis not as regards the authority and Dominion mandate, our qualities and capabilities but first having a proper understanding of who and whose we are. Delving deeper, one must first know God and the

power He possesses, then find himself in Him.

What We Must Deal With

We need to address, confront, and eliminate the internal energy, voice of inadequacy that we have entertained, and the voice that contradicts Jesus that we have become so accustomed to, so much so that it informs all our decisions.

While it is essential to have believer's classes and foundation classes in the church, we must not assume that people are familiar with God. Many are beginners and need to be taught from scratch. A person struggling with personality issues will have cracks in whatever they build, which is a significant foundational mistake. Such a person must be counselled with a proper foundation of Christ established. We cannot assume that people are knowledgeable about Jesus as many put up a front and are only at a peripheral level, like non-believers.

WALKING IN THE CONSCIOUS

A person struggling with personality issues will have cracks in whatever they build.

KNOWLEDGE OF YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

I will use myself as an

example. When I received Jesus as my Lord and personal Saviour years ago, I did not know that an altar call was a one-time event. Every time I attended a Pentecostal church and heard an altar call, I would be out there in front. The funny thing is, I felt that every other person was too proud not to respond to the call. There was something about the altar call that stirred me up then and still does now. I always love that time in service.

We Must Be Taught Afresh

Believers need to be taught afresh. I once met a lawyer and respected 'elder' who served in a high capacity in his church. The Holy Spirit pointed him out to me and revealed that while he loved God and served diligently, he had not received Jesus and was not born again. I inquired and found this to be true, so I took the necessary steps to address it. My question is, how could such a significant detail be overlooked for a high-ranking member of the church?

Perhaps this grave oversight was due to assumptions based on his eloquence, poise, and other attributes. However, people can make the best speeches, be great orators, conduct themselves appropriately, and

still not be born again. Self-righteousness is not true righteousness, and we need to continually emphasize this fact. Am I an expert on this? The answer is no. Based on my experiences however, I am moved to revisit the basics with this scripture in mind: "***If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do***" (Psalm 11:3, KJV)?

The righteous can rebuild on God's truth. Every believing child of God should boldly confront their foundations and make necessary adjustments. Until we understand who we are, whose we are, and what was and is as regards our identity in Christ, we cannot stand boldly to fulfil our assignment here on earth, which is to establish God's Kingdom.



Chapter Two

Made in His Image and Likeness

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Genesis 1:27 (KJV)

Every believer must understand that man is not a product of the evolution theory or scientific experimentation. He is not merely a collection of cells or any other label the world has assigned him. Man is not self-sufficient and cannot function independently, for everything that exists was made by God and consists of Him entirely, not just in part. Without Him, there is no life. This means that anything that exists is either in, from, or by Him.

All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

John 1:3 (KJV)

"For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

Acts 17:28

Growing up, I often wondered how we all came into existence. This thought was laid to rest when I attended catechism classes. My parents were staunch Catholics, and we were raised with strict Catholic values, such as not arriving late to church and observing devotion times. In my family, prayer times were non-negotiable and compulsory, and we were required to say the Rosary. Rushing through prayer or mumbling a few words was not an option; any delay meant an increased prayer time of 15 decades of the Rosary.

Initially, it was difficult and challenging, but it instilled in me the discipline of a prayerful lifestyle, which is a virtue that I cherish dearly. Recently, I learned that five more decades have been added to the Rosary, making it twenty. Most children would frown at this news, as they would want to finish quickly and catch up on the next soap opera.

However, for me, these religious exercises played a significant role in shaping my disciplined walk with God.

Who Made You?

During our catechism class/exam, one of the first questions we were asked was, "Who made you?" I was around 7 to 9 years old at the time, and although I can't recall the exact age, I do remember echoing "God" with the rest of the class. This belief, that man was created by God and not through the unfounded and humorous stories of evolution is a common ground among many religions.

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10

In these times, we must recognize that just because something has been written in history does not necessarily make it true or the truth. Merely being passed down from generation to generation does not guarantee its veracity; it could be an age-old deception. We should be cautious about the materials we and our children are exposed to, so we don't get confused.

WALKING IN THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

Children should learn about God's existence, their origin, and their purpose on earth as early as possible

WALKING IN THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

As parents, we need to monitor what our children are exposed to until they are old enough to stand on their own. A solid foundation is crucial, particularly a strong foundation in God, which will be of great benefit to both parents and children.

If we allow our children to interact with other children and trust strangers to take care of them as early as one or two years old, we should trust our Heavenly Father God even more.

Children should learn about God's existence, their origin, and their purpose on earth as early as possible. If children can understand academic concepts, they can comprehend God's teachings even better. They are never too young to learn about the Trinity (God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit). By doing so, we can protect their innocence and purity by blocking out imaginary friends, identity crises, perversion, and other negative influences.

Man is God-Made

This is my belief as a Christian: man is not just a part of

creation but a well-thought-out plan of God, executed with care. Although God created all things, He consulted the Trinity when it came to man. They deliberated together and arrived at the conclusion that they needed to create a being for a special purpose, which we will explore later. The Triune God created an extension of themselves with a unique function. They came together because this being called MAN would have to function in the fullness of God, which means having God's nature, ability, and capacity.

WALKING IN THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

Man is not just a part of creation but a well-thought-out plan of God, executed with care.

WALKING IN THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves

on the earth.”

Genesis 1:26-28

Just as a child born into a family can be easily identified by their looks, appearance, and even demeanour to belong to that particular family, so are we in God. Man is a spitting image and likeness of God; we are His exact replica. If you ever wondered what or how God looks, look at yourself! Yes, you are His exact look-alike. You are made in His image and likeness, an offshoot of the Trinity, God in His totality.

To be made in God's image means to have His outlook and nature. The word "image," according to Strong's definition, refers to resemblance, hence a representative figure. While being made in His 'likeness' goes beyond the visible, into the unseen. It's His nature, state of being, actions, default mode, and disposition. This is why it is spelled out in Genesis 1:26, ***“Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness...’”*** This cannot be termed as tautology. Rather, the Trinity, beyond looks and outlook, needed one of their kind to think and function as they do, to rule and reign in their stead on earth. This is how we exercise and establish the authority of God on earth.

The True Essence of Creation

God is love, kind, holy, and faithful, but He is also Spirit and Truth. As much as we know His inward and outward expressions, we should also acquaint ourselves with His inner perceptions from which the image holds. Everything God has done or will ever do is pure Spirit because that is His realm. He chose to keep it that way, while He made man to inhabit the earth as an extension of Himself in both state of being and functionality. Man is made by Him and of Him. There is no dispute regarding this, for every believer must embrace this basic truth.



Chapter Three

The God Family

For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

Ephesians 5:30-31

God is family-oriented, which is why He created human beings and values family excellence highly. He ensures that no aspect of our lives is left lacking, and perfection is His watchword. He modelled this in Genesis 1:26 when He said, "**Let us.**" This exemplifies His love for fellowship with brethren. God loves when we come together to work as a team, each supplying their bit

while remaining united.

Genesis 1:27 highlights that God created man (male and female) in His own image. Before creating humans, nothing was made in the likeness of God, not even the angels or Lucifer (Satan). Despite Lucifer's attempt to exalt himself and make himself like God, God hungered for His kind, and even though Lucifer sought to exalt himself and make himself like the Most High as seen in Isaiah 14:14, ***“I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High,”*** God would not have him because God's heirs must be of His kind.

Have you ever felt out of place somewhere? Perhaps the people were from a different social class, tribe, or spoke a different language that you didn't understand. Maybe you had no common interests

WALKING IN THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

God is family oriented, and we carry His DNA. Yes! We carry the very DNA of God.

WALKING IN THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

with them; we've all experienced that feeling. But when you find people who are like-minded, with the same orientation as you, the joy you feel is immeasurable. God feels the same way about us because He made us in His image and with His

essence, nature, and function. He poured His love into creating us, and we carry His DNA. Yes! We carry the very DNA of God.

The Genesis of Man's Problem

The genesis of man's problem began with the fall of Adam, which led to him reproducing after his own likeness, which went against the family structure established by God. The fall resulted in a sinful nature that was now being passed down through Adam's seed, rather than the righteous nature of God. As a result, generations were born after the likeness of Adam and not in the likeness of God.

This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him; Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created. And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth:

Genesis 5:1-3

Man was made to respond to divine order but Adam was subjected under the elements of this world

because he had moved away from God's own foundation, FAMILY.

For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

Romans 8:20:22

We must then know this, until we return to the family order of God and raise children after the order of God, there will always be calamity.

Simple Truth

Growing up as a child, I looked like my dad, while my sisters resembled my mum in both physical appearance and skin colour. I often felt out of place because of this difference. I also felt that my dad doted on my sisters more because they reminded him of his late wife, my dear mum. It may seem laughable, but it's hard to understand how a child's mind works, especially when all they crave is attention. Seeing my sisters made me feel like an outsider, as they were not only a constant reminder of my mum to my dad, but also everyone who came across us.

As an adult, I now understand that my sisters carry the

image of my late mum, and through them, she lives on. My dad saw her image in them, and it kept her memory alive in him. Even though it was awkward for me as a child, it is the simple truth, just as we are in God's image and likeness. We should strive to be the spitting image of Our Father God, regardless of our physical, mental, or unique differences. We are all part of God's family and should remain united in Him, with no telling us apart. In government, this is called Unity in Diversity, and we should strive for the same bond and unity in God. Our doctrinal beliefs should never limit our bond and unity in Him. **WE ARE ONE IN HIM.**



Chapter Four

Our Functionality In Him (Duty)

Now you [collectively] are Christ's body and [individually] you are members of it, each part severally and distinct [each with his own place and function].

1 Corinthians 12:27 (AMP)

The Trinity though one, have different functionalities to bring about a conclusive and perfect picture of anything they undertake. They have the support of each other, none looking to outshine or desiring the place of the other, but working in a perfect order with God the Father at the very top. This is the perfect picture painted for man to replicate especially in a family structure just as it is in

Heaven.

God, who is loving explored this dimension of Himself in the making of man together in agreement. Love, being His nature, He created an extension of Himself to carry out His purpose on earth, to replicate His realm on earth which is why the next thing we read in Gen 1:26 is; “***Let them have dominion***”.

This is not just God expanding His family unit but His rule, and authority. In Ibo land where I was born (natural birth) for example, the coming together of a man and a woman in marriage for procreation is to the end that they expand their legacy, which is why birthing a male child is of utmost importance as the male is the seed bearer. These children especially the male children are handed certain responsibilities, and an inheritance like businesses, lands, houses etc. For God however, it goes beyond the physical. He not only wants us to dominate in this realm but even in the spiritual, for the supernatural governs the natural realm.

Our Four-Dimensional Duties

Our duties are grouped into four, according to this scripture.

Honour all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.

1 Peter 2:17

1. Honour All People

We are to honour and uphold all men, at all times. This begins when we recognize the fact that everyone is an expression of God upon the earth carrying His life, image and likeness which includes His nature and authority. When we honour all men, we demonstrate that we are indeed the Disciples of Christ.

By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

John 13:35

As a matter of necessity, Romans 12:10 further advises, “Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another.”

Always seek for what benefits others and avoid putting other people down.

Let no man seek his own, but every man another's wealth. But if any man say unto you, This is offered in sacrifice unto idols, eat not for his sake that shewed it, and for conscience sake: for the earth is the Lord's, and the fulness

thereof.

1 Corinthians 10:24, 28

Sometimes we may be offended by other people but we must forbear each other and tolerate their excesses.

With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love

Ephesians 4:2

2. Love the Brotherhood

No man is an island; we must love and uphold the brotherhood, seek its advancement, and support and supply our own quota for its growth and expansion. That is the more reason each of us is gifted differently Romans 12:4 says, ***“For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office.”***

We ought to always supply our quota for the perfection and progress of the body, constantly avoid everything that makes for its destruction, not giving room to offence but always on guard defending it against intruders and naysayers for its interest outweighs our individual interest.

We must love the brotherhood because according to

Ephesians 4:3-6,
“Endeavouring to keep
the unity of the Spirit in
the bond of peace. There
is one body, and one
Spirit, even as ye are called
in one hope of your
calling; One Lord, one
faith, one baptism, One
God and Father of all, who is above all, and through
all, and in you all.”

WALKING IN THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF YOUR IDENTITY IN CH

The brotherhood is
established on one
foundation which
is Christ.

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The brotherhood is established on one foundation which is Christ and instituted as an avenue for us to draw strength and comfort.

If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

Philippians 2:1-4

We must always avoid strife, unlawful competition

and pursuit of vain glory. This is because it is the quickest way of bringing the brotherhood down, Matthew 12:25 further says, ***“For every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand.”*** Therefore, let's ensure we don't give space for its downfall but do everything within our power to grow, defend and advance the universal Body of Christ at all times which is our brotherhood.

3. Fear God

Fearing God means to put Him first, worshipping, obeying His voice, abiding by His laws, bringing acceptable offering, getting souls saved and placing Him above every other etc. These are the very core essence of our existence.

Ecclesiastes 12:13- says, “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.”

We must out of necessity put off the old nature that is always trying to influence us into walking in disobedience to God and be renewed in our mind always

Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath

loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour. But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

Ephesians 5:1-5

There is no better way we can demonstrate to God that we fear Him other than in the presentation of our bodies as living sacrifices.

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Romans 12:1

Only then can we have access to be led by His Spirit into all truth. John 16:13a says, "***Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth.***" Because God has said His Spirit will no longer strive with man, "***And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that***

he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years (Genesis 6:3). Only the man whose spirit is submitted to Him in all things, knowing that He is all in all has access to God's Spirit.

Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire.

Hebrews 12:28,29

4. Obey the King

Although, we all are created in the image and likeness of God, for the sake of functionality, order and progress, some persons seem to be highly placed than others as stated in ***Romans 13:1-7:***

Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the

minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. For this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.

Therefore, let's subject ourselves willingly to authority, obey and pray for them for they're of God and require such from us if they are to function properly.

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

1 Timothy 2:1-2



Chapter Five

Our Authority (Ability)

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Genesis 1:26

God not only made man in his image but gave man the authority to rule in His stead on earth dominating every strata, establishing His rule, His government and His kingdom on earth because he knows that man cannot function in his capacity as God without God's empowerment.

God As the Supreme

God is the supreme and only true God over all, He created all things and without Him was not anything made that was made. He was the force behind all creation and chooses to express Himself, handed it over to Jesus to be the head.

For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father [of Eternity], Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6, AMPC

Jesus the Son is the Head of the Body and we all together that believe and have received Him are His body. So as the verse says the government is on His shoulder, Beloved without engaging semantics, the shoulder is not located at the head but right after the neck. That is to say that, the burden of the Government of God and its establishment on earth is not upon the head (Jesus) but His body, (You and I) His family.

WALKING IN THE CONSCIOUS

The burden of the Government of God and its establishment on earth is not upon the head (Jesus) but His body, (You and I).

NESS OF YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

Man-Given Authority

The moment man (Adam) was created, he was given authority over all things that were created

Genesis 1:28 (KJV) - And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

The Extent of Man's Authority

The authority of man cuts across every sphere of life. As stated in Gen 1:28, man was in charge of the fish of the sea (terrestrial Powers) signifying water, the fowls of the air (principalities) representing the air and creeping things (spiritual wickedness) referring to land. All these were given to man to dominate over not to talk of creating and recreating our world like our Father God.

Instances Where Man Established His Dominion, Power & Authority

1. Naming the Animals

One of the first instances Adam exercised authority was in the naming of the animals.

And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof. And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

Genesis 2:19-20 (KJV)

Adam had the ability to name all the animals and apportioned them their duties according to their behaviour and habitat because of the authority and ability given to him by God.

2. Gathering the Animals into the Ark

It was that same authority in man at work in Adam that enabled Noah to gather and take all the fish of the seas, fowls of the air and every creeping thing upon

the earth two by two into the ark.

And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood. Of clean beasts, and of beasts that are not clean, and of fowls, and of every thing that creepeth upon the earth, There went in two and two unto Noah into the ark, the male and the female, as God had commanded Noah.

Genesis 7:7-9 (KJV)

3. Raining Down Different Plagues in the Land of Egypt

Moses and Aaron exercised the ability and authority in man when they commanded (ten plagues) judgement upon pharaoh and his people, when he refused to let the Israelites go from Egypt as instructed by God.

a. Turning Water into Blood

And Moses and Aaron did so, as the LORD commanded; and he lifted up the rod, and smote the waters that were in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh, and in the sight of his servants; and all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood.

Exodus 7:20

b. The Rain of Frogs

And Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt; and the frogs came up, and covered the land of Egypt.

Exodus 8:6

c. The Rain of Lice

And they did so; for Aaron stretched out his hand with his rod, and smote the dust of the earth, and it became lice in man, and in beast; all the dust of the land became lice throughout all the land of Egypt.

Exodus 8:17

d. The Rain of Hail and Thunder

And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch forth thine hand toward heaven, that there may be hail in all the land of Egypt, upon man, and upon beast, and upon every herb of the field, throughout the land of Egypt. And Moses stretched forth his rod toward heaven: and the LORD sent thunder and hail, and the fire ran along upon the ground; and the LORD rained hail upon the land of Egypt.

Exodus 9:22-23

e. The Rain of Locust

And Moses stretched forth his rod over the land

of Egypt, and the LORD brought an east wind upon the land all that day, and all that night; and when it was morning, the east wind brought the locusts. And the locusts went up over all the land of Egypt, and rested in all the coasts of Egypt: very grievous were they; before them there were no such locusts as they, neither after them shall be such.

Exodus 10:13-14

4. Commanding of the Ground to Open

Moses commanded the ground to open and swallowed the sons of Korah, who had been against his God given authority in the wilderness.

And Moses said, Hereby ye shall know that the LORD hath sent me to do all these works; for I have not done them of mine own mind. If these men die the common death of all men, or if they be visited after the visitation of all men; then the LORD hath not sent me. But if the LORD make a new thing, and the earth open her mouth, and swallow them up, with all that appertain unto them, and they go down quick into the pit; then ye shall understand that these men have provoked the LORD. And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods.

Numbers 16:28-32

5. Commanding the Sun to Stand Still

With the authority at work in man, Joshua was able to stop the sun from going down until he was done fighting their enemies.

Then spake Joshua to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon. And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. Is not this written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day.

Joshua 10:12-13

In the New Testament

In the New Testament quite a lot was achieved by man as a result of the authority of Christ given to the early apostles like Paul.

So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.

Acts 19:12

And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and laid them on the fire, there came a viper out of the heat, and fastened on his hand. And when the barbarians saw the venomous beast hang on his hand, they said among themselves, No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he hath escaped the sea, yet vengeance suffereth not to live. And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm. Howbeit they looked when he should have swollen, or fallen down dead suddenly: but after they had looked a great while, and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god.

Acts 28:3-6

NB; The fallen man was still powerful even in his fallen state because *'the gifts and calling of God are without repentance Rom 11:29 (KJV)*. So, the fallen man didn't fall short of his authority and power. The major thing he lacked was coordination, effectiveness and productivity in righteousness, and all this because he lost fellowship with the Father, and his thoughts became evil.

And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil

continually. And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart (Genesis 6:5-6).



Chapter Six

And Man Fell

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

Genesis 3:6-7, 24

As we proceed into this book, one major thing we must know and understand is that many terminologies, concepts and ideologies used in the world are borrowed from God and His outworking. One of such terminologies is the **Brotherhood**.

God's Original Intention

WALKING IN THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

The “Brotherhood” is an ordination from God for us to love, uphold, uplift, and look out for one another.

The “Brotherhood” is an ordination from God for us to love, uphold, uplift, and look out for one another. This was His intention, that brother will look out for brother, none to stand alone, and not the rat race, cat and mouse outlook, competitions, dishonour and tearing down each other we have. This has left cracks, and damages in the hearts of many, and this is the reason for the identity issues we see in the church today.

Putting each other down brings us back to the curse that was in the time of the first Adam as exhibited by Cain contrary to the intention our Father Abba made man in *Genesis 4:8*, “*And Cain talked with Abel*

his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.”

God made the first man and woman, (Adam and Eve) to start His own family on earth to raise a generation of His kind. The idea was to fill the earth with the God-kind, a people after His heart, image and likeness but they yielded to another voice, and a wisdom contrary to that of God.

Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?

Romans 6:16

We Do the Same Thing

Before we get judgmental, we do the same thing every time we steer away from God's way to find our own path, refusing to submit to our process, and wait on God until we are properly trained and guided. Many of us graduated ourselves before time while others never got into training.

God's Silence Doesn't Necessarily Mean "No"

I must tell you this truth, God's silence on certain issues doesn't necessarily mean a 'NO' but could mean "Hold on you are not yet ready for this." It's the will of God for us to prosper but the prosperity should never be at the expense of our soul. Our soul is much more important to God than any other thing. In 3 John 1:2, the Bible says, "***Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.***"

We Always Rush Off

We are often in a hurry to take the bull by the horn without considering its stubborn nature, and how mighty such a fall can be. Adam and Eve were not different from us today, I have come to know that there is sin against purpose. Adam, Eve, and also King Saul are in this category. They stood in the way and almost truncated the move of God as in the case of Ananias and Saphira when a fresh season being ushered in by the Father.

After the destruction of the world as we see in Genesis 1:2, "***The earth was formless and void or a waste and emptiness and dark was upon the***

face of the deep.” God was putting together a whole new world; a system devoid of any other that would establish His rule and sovereignty. This He packaged by Himself and by Himself man was made in His very essence and substance. He breathed His life into man, no wonder man was denied access to the tree of life as it would have been disastrous for sin to reign eternally on earth.

And the Lord God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us (Father, Son, Holy Spirit), knowing [how to distinguish between] good and evil; and now, he might stretch out his hand, and take from the tree of life as well, and eat [its fruit], and live [in this fallen, sinful condition] forever”— therefore the Lord God sent Adam away from the Garden of Eden, to till and cultivate the ground from which he was taken. So God drove the man out; and at the east of the Garden of Eden He [permanently] stationed the cherubim and the sword with the flashing blade which turned round and round [in every direction] to protect and guard the way (entrance, access) to the tree of life.

Genesis 3:22-24

The Peculiarity of the Fall of Man

The peculiarity of the fall of man wasn't just about

Adam and Eve yielding to a contrary voice, strange knowledge I may say but more because they broke a major code in Kingdom culture: the Brotherhood we have in Him. This majors on looking out for one another to build up and not to spitefully use each other or tear down ourselves. Adam got it wrong when instead of correcting Eve, he succumbed to her fallen state. This is wrong and mirrors a funny definition of love. Love is a nature we have in God and not that which is borne out of emotions or any form of carnality which spans to a myopic mindset of everyone feeling the same pain you feel or are feeling, or that others must fail because you did. If you are in this category, you are in Christ but not of Him.

Cain also broke the code as he mirrored the same anomaly discussed here when he killed his brother even after God pre-warned him as seen in Genesis 4:7,9, ***“If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.” Then the Lord said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” He said, “I do not know. Am I my brother’s keeper?”***

This is a total error; one we must look out for. Sin is constantly at our door and we must rule over it, or do

you not know that self-conceitedness, selfishness, self-righteousness, over indulging one's self are all sins against God? Yes! Our sin nature has been taken but we must guard against acts of sin that are still attaching themselves to our members. We must rule over them. Our dominion mandate is bringing to subjection, obedience and alignment anything that is contrary to God's order.

The Right Order of Things

Jesus walking the earth was still in sync with God the Father and Holy spirit, a constant open communication line as seen in John 5:19, ***“Then Jesus replied, “I assure you: The Son is not able to do anything on His own, but only what He sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, the Son also does these things in the same way.”***

We are to emulate this order and structure without any form of distraction. We must do things how God does it, see as He sees, and become like Him. This is the essence of the coming of Jesus to bring us back to our place in God, and restore us not just to our place in God, but to His order and rule for only then can we carry out fully the mandate of dominion. He is returning and expects to see us not in a fallen state but in the fullness of the glory He attained for us to be

His Own | Ifeoma Jack

a spitting image of Him.



Chapter Seven

Jesus— Our Kinsman Redeemer

For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

1 Corinthians 15:21-23

A kinsman – redeemer under the Mosaic law, is a male relative who is saddled with the responsibility to act on behalf of a relative who was in trouble, danger or had any need. In our case, the first Adam lost the authority conferred to him by the Father and to get back the dominion he lost so as to establish God's rule on the earth, God had a plan.

To this end, the last Adam, our 'Kinsman Redeemer' was introduced to ensure the fulfilment of God's purpose and restore us back to God in His image and likeness.

“And so it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being.” The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual. The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man.”

I Corinthians 15:45-49

Relentless Love of the Father

Our God relentless in His love and pursuit will stop at nothing to see His will which is our ultimate purpose carried out to the last bit. This He showcased in His walk with Israel especially in the Old Testament. For as many times that they fell, there was restitution. God delivered them always with continuous sacrifices until the perfect sacrifice came on board.

God went from just Israel to pouring out His love on the world. His intention being that all will be saved that believe in Him.

“For God so [greatly] loved and dearly prized the world, that He [even] gave His [One and] only begotten Son, so that whoever believes and trusts in Him [as Savior] shall not perish, but have eternal life.

John 3:16 (AMP)

The one-time sacrifice of Jesus liberated us from the curse of the law that was on our neck like a hangman's noose, a yoke of slavery to sin separating us morally from God but

WALKING IN THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF YOUR IDENTITY

The one-time sacrifice of Jesus liberated us from the curse of the law.

THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF YOUR IDENTITY

as mirrored in Galatians 3:13, *“Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”).”*

We Are Delivered and Eternally Yoked to Christ

How endless is this love of God for His family and to see the perfected end for them that He will stop at nothing until the fulfilment of that which He

purposed.

For I know the plans and thoughts that I have for you,' says the Lord, 'plans for peace and well-being and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.

Jeremiah 29:11 (AMP)

It is with this mindset that the Father in His infinite mercy besought to redeem man and restore Him to his original state. This act of love and mercy would never have been possible if our Lord Jesus Christ wasn't brought into the equation. Just like Boaz, the husband of Ruth became her kinsman redeemer, so is Jesus to us. He is our redeemer, who purchased us with His blood, paid our debt in full and bought us back into His beloved.

He took our place, and not only did He serve our punishment of death but became sin on the cross and absorbed every plague and outworking of sin that we may be completely free from the nature of sin and death itself, and live in abundance of life eternal.

Let's look a bit into our heritage as stated in Ephesians:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as

He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace”.

Ephesians 1:3-7

If you read the entire chapter, it not only spells out our redemption but our current position in Christ. Beloved, there is no need to look down on yourself as He didn't pay for a few but for all of you. There is no need for timidity for the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and a sound mind such we are not lacking or giving room to low self-esteem nor even superiority to others for these are of the flesh.

The Identity of Our Kinsman

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All

things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight—

Colossians 1:15-22

What a delight to hear and know that Jesus was not just another man that walked on the street, another story told in the Bible nor another figment of someone's imagination. Beloved you can exhale at this point. What a relief to know that the burden of proof of salvation is not saddled on you, but someone else bore it and is still today and forever pleading your case.

Jesus our salvation liberated us not just from dead works but from a dead life—death itself as a state of being those metamorphoses into physical death. He

didn't just save us from sin and death but He is our Mediator, our Kinsman Redeemer and the High Priest of our confession.

Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.

Hebrews 8:1-2

He Is the Greatest High Priest

Jesus is a priest like no other.

Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:14-16

Jesus our Kinsman Redeemer not only perfected mankind by coming as the last Adam, He opened the life gate that all may go in and ushered us into a whole

new race, **The New Creation**. Yes! Jesus is the last Adam as explained by Apostle Paul because there will be no more Adam, not of that race (see 1 Corinthians 15:45). Jesus perfected, completed and achieved that purpose as He reinstated us in the Father to begin God's original plan without contamination nor condemnation. We are new and never existed. The old is completely gone, the old you, the old order is gone, and we now have a new life in Christ. Galatians 2:20 puts it this way, ***“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”***



Chapter Eight

The Race Called Christ

Therefore if anyone is in Christ [that is, grafted in, joined to Him by faith in Him as Savior], he is a new creature [reborn and renewed by the Holy Spirit]; the old things [the previous moral and spiritual condition] have passed away. Behold, new things have come [because spiritual awakening brings a new life].

2 Corinthians 5:17 (AMP)

The man that receives, believes and confesses Jesus as his Lord and personal saviour receives a brand new life in him.

What It Means to Be Born Again

Being “born again” simply means you are out of the old nature completely. This is why Scripture highlights that ALL things have become NEW. That is to say that what was, is no longer relevant, for the old is now obsolete. This is not just as regards your life. I am clearly convinced that this is not just as regards human life or nature but that when Jesus went to the cross, it was not just for humanity but for “**the World**”.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

This verse didn't just say, God so loves mankind (humanity) but the world. This means the earth and all in it are implicated by the sacrifice of Jesus. I dare say then that anyone who receives Jesus as saviour, then believes in this truth as stated and is drafted into Christ by His Spirit is to establish this truth as received and convinced. We have received the ministry of reconciliation and it is then our responsibility in Christ as the ones in authority to enforce this truth, giving the life we have received to everything.

The End of The Old and The Beginning of The New

In John 19:30, the Bible records, *“So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished!”* This was not just an addition in John's account but that He, Jesus had drunk the very wrath of God and finished, never to be revisited again, everything that pertained to the old order. The fall of the first Adam that incurred the wrath of God had been completely annihilated by the last Adam, Jesus and there won't be another from that race as that race is completely extinct. The inadequacies of the first Adam, his inabilities, mission and restitution were then fulfilled by the last Adam, Jesus. The new race then begins from the resurrection, a whole new creation which has never been in existence.

The new man in Christ is nothing like the old man. To everyone that has received Jesus, you were never in existence. The old you is completely gone and forgotten by the Father. You are blood washed, blood bought, Holy Ghost full with no

WALKING IN THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

The inadequacies of the first Adam, his inabilities, mission and restitution were then fulfilled by the last Adam, Jesus.

WALKING IN THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

contamination or blemish. You are fresh out of the oven. Before, you had no access to the Father nor were you in possession of His Spirit but now, you do. What we have right now is a whole new life, a whole new era, and once you receive Jesus, you enter into it and by the Spirit of God have access and liberty in Christ.

Jesus is the greatest High priest,

Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:14-16

Accepting the above stated truth as your reality, it behoves me to share with you that this “New creation (Christ)” that we are has only one means of survival and that is the **HOLY SPIRIT**. The entirety of the existence of this new breed is hinged on our utmost ability to synergize with the Spirit of God, and submitting to His leadership so as to fulfil our ultimate assignment which is to establish the

Kingdom and that is to say the RULE OF GOD on the earth. We are called to exert TOTAL DOMINION over all creation.

The Matured in Christ

Romans 8:14 says, “*For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.*” We are mature in Christ to the extent we are submitted to the leading of the Holy Spirit and fully inclined to Him.

The race called CHRIST will not survive living according to the flesh. It is clearly stated in Romans 8:13, “For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.”

Simply put, living life as you once knew it is death, but living by the Spirit is life eternal. Delving deeper into this truth, you'll find that not only are our lives different, it also goes down to our warfare and responsibilities in Him.

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of

Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

2 Corinthians 10:3-6

That you're still in your old body doesn't mean the old is still in existence. It means your spirit man is fully activated in its sensitivity to God. Fully restored, your spirit has the ability, and empowerment to function and operate fully as and in God, while the body awaits its total salvation at the coming of Jesus Christ, who is the Head of the Body of Christ. This is to say that checking yourself with the old you or others especially the world, will only lead to a massive failure as you would be “kicking against the goad”. Our absolute obedience as stated in the scripture above brings an end to the war especially against the flesh. We are to then check ourselves with the only truth that suffices and holds sway, our new life.

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 3:18

How We Are Transformed

Our full transformation into the same image of the

Christ as held by Jesus, the Head of the Body is in fixing our gaze solely, completely on Him, and nowhere else so we become a complete match for Him.

But I don't know where to find Him, you may say. Look into His Word. JESUS IS THE WORD OF GOD MADE MANIFEST IN FLESH. Today His Word and Spirit is our compass to navigate this earth realm to fulfil the purpose of the Father for us and bring Him fulfilment too. Focusing on the world or even believers with unrenewed mind is death itself. Life eternal is only found in Christ and you are **CHRIST**.



Chapter Nine

He Calls Us His Own

Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.

1 John 3:1

Howbeit then that we, His own will then take our identity from a world, or people who did not know Him nor strive in any way to know Him? Do you not see that this in itself is a distorted picture?

Beloved this world has nothing to offer you but it's failures, lies, and deceptions. No wonder Revelations 12:12 says, "Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you

who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time.”

Can you now see that anytime you entertain a bit of doubt, you are lured away? The devil is roaming about seeking as many to drag down with him but you have escaped his snare just by embracing the truth of who you are. For we who are of heaven are to rejoice for we are seated together with Jesus over and above all the earth. We are in the world but not of the world but because we still live in this body once in a while the flesh will want to rise up.

However, we put it under subjection and also make sure we don't frolic in sinful flesh. There are times in

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life when one begins to feel or think they are not good enough or inadequate, totally clueless as to what to do, where to go, who they are, the list runs long. If you find yourself in any of the category above or worse, do these simple things I'll outline.

1. Change Your Setting, Environment and Company

Your environment and the people around you are major determining factors to the peace or unrest you have. The people around you tend to create an atmosphere and your atmosphere is quite important. You are probably hanging around the wrong people who end up keeping you in doubt of your person, thus creating a false yet negative atmosphere around you. The negative energy released then controls your mood.

Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits."

1 Corinthians 15:33

Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?

2 Corinthians 6:14

He who walks with wise men will be wise, But the companion of fools will be destroyed.

Proverbs 13:20

2. Be mindful of What You Listen to

Words are seed. They don't grow out immediately when planted, they grow roots in the ground before shooting up. The words you take in have a major factor in destabilizing not just you but the truth you laid hold of. If not controlled, the truth you know will then be replaced with junk doctrines of the devil. This often comes as a subtle desensitization. Your heart is that ground the seed is planted and you must guard it.

3. Guard Your Thoughts

What do you meditate on? What fills your mind? What occupies it through the day? Do you think about the things that make for life or mundane things as we often go shadow chasing?

“Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.”

Proverbs 4:23

“Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.”

Philippians 4:8

Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night.

Psalms 1:1-2

The Psalmist calls a person who delights and meditates in the word, BLESSED and this blessed life is only accessible as well as explorable in CHRIST by “HIS OWN”. Take care of these three areas and you find yourself living an excellent life devoid of uncertainties and loss of identity. The next time the devil comes your way speak loudly;

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Romans 8:1-4

Stand your ground. Resist the devil and he will flee;

he is that same old serpent with no new tricks. Concentrate on the power that brings him down. Beloved you are Spirit, Soul and Body and so you have the innate power to dominate in all realms. Refuse every lie of the devil, refuse his deception, refuse to let him keep you in constant pain, regret, and depression. Stop playing down on yourself. Never make the cross futile because Jesus paid the price in full and He beckons. Breakout of slave mentality, stop short-changing yourself. Strive for knowledge of God, stay in His arena, the arena of Wisdom. Our ignorance has kept the devil almost as king of this realm but he is not a king nor will he ever be. A slave can never be an heir.

You are a King and a Priest in the order of the Kingship and Priesthood of Jesus. You are made from the very stock of Abba (Father God). You are a **god** after the order of the one true **GOD** for “**Ye are Gods**” and this is a declared truth, Our **TRUTH**, because we are HIS OWN...

...entirely His own

Who can bring a charge against me?

I am His, entirely His own.

I am special, different from others.

In Him, all His.

Loved and lifted;

Fearfully and wonderfully made,

In Him I live and move and have my being.

His own, entirely his own

Be careful now, 'cause I am His, entirely His.



Confession

I know who and whose I am.

I am a son of God made in His image and likeness.

I am beautifully and wonderfully made.

I am not on earth by accident but

Predestined, ordained and anointed

To fulfil God's purpose on earth.

I am His own as He abides in me and I in Him.

Amen.



Prayer of Salvation

Father,

I come before you today in humble repentance and faith, seeking your salvation and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ. I believe that He is the way, the truth, and the life, and that no one can come to you except through Him (John 14:6).

I confess that I am a sinner and have fallen short of Your glory (Romans 3:23). I acknowledge that my sins have separated me from You, and I am in need of Your forgiveness and grace. I believe that Jesus died on the cross for my sins and rose again on the third day, conquering death and providing the way for me to have eternal life with You (1 Corinthians 15:3-4).

I repent of my sins and ask for Your forgiveness. I invite Jesus into my heart and life, to be my Lord and Saviour, and to guide me by Your Holy Spirit. I surrender my will and my life to You, trusting in Your love and mercy.

Thank you, Lord, for Your grace and salvation, and for the promise of eternal life with You. May Your name be glorified in my life and in all that I do. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

We cannot wait to hear from you!

*If you said this prayer, and you would like to know more about your new-found life in Jesus, contact me at:
ifeomajack@gmail.com*

