

NEXT WEEK

Ecclesiastics

Bread

- of life (Jn 6:35, 48)
- which came down
from heaven
(Jn 6:41, 51)

Light

of the world
(Jn 8:12; 9:5)

Door

(Jn 10:9)
of the sheep
(Jn 10:7)

Good

Shepherd
(Jn 10:11, 14)

Before (Jn 8:58)
Abraham was

**Resurrection
and Life**

(Jn 11:25)

I AM

**the Way,
the Truth,
and the Life**

(Jn 14:6)

Vine

(Jn 15:1, 5)

What do so many of these “I am” statements have in common?

- Bread, light, vine
- All involved things needed to live
- Door, Shepherd, way-truth-life, resurrection-life
- Things that lead us and guide our lives
- What do these statements show us about our lives?
- We need Christ – he provides what we need for life and shows us how to live

I am what I am by the grace of God kept from falling
buried with Christ and raised with him confident

I AM SAVED BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH blessed
sealed crucified **transformed** workmanship

SERVANT member of God's household DEAD TO SIN
Royal Priesthood seated with Christ guided complete

forgiven *salt of the earth* Gods righteousness
set free apple of his eye Beloved

WHO AM I IN CHRIST? SAFE

reconciled HIS sanctified not ashamed a son
rescued from darkness CALLED child of God predestined

aroma ABLE BORN OF THE SPIRIT very bold
born of God citizen from heaven BELIEVER

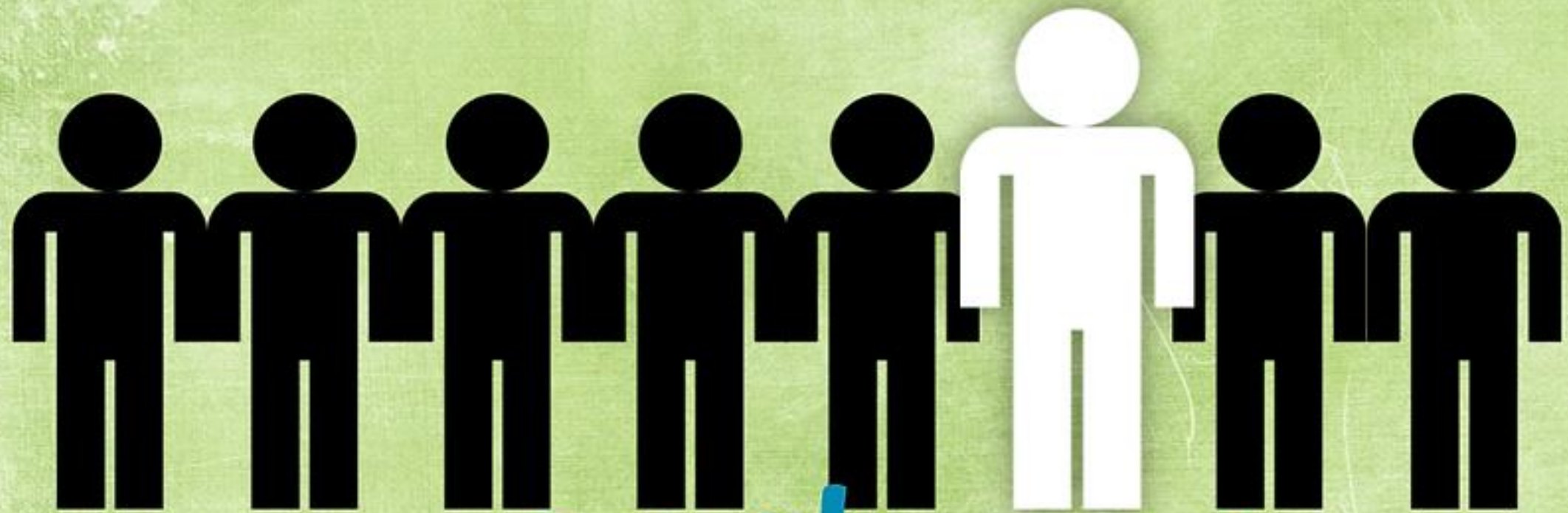
kept from temptation helped in my weakness
chosen disciplined saint living stone

Christ's slave filled with joy redeemed

believe and are saved NO CONDEMNATION

temple of God
holy and dearly loved
LIGHT OF THE WORLD

more than a conqueror
new creation
ambassador
Justified



Who Am I?

With Christ

Who Am I?

How do we define ourselves?

- Husband/Wife
- Father/Mother
- Grandparent
- Work for xxxx Company
- Good athlete
- Large house – great car
- Education
- Famous – actions in past/present – social media

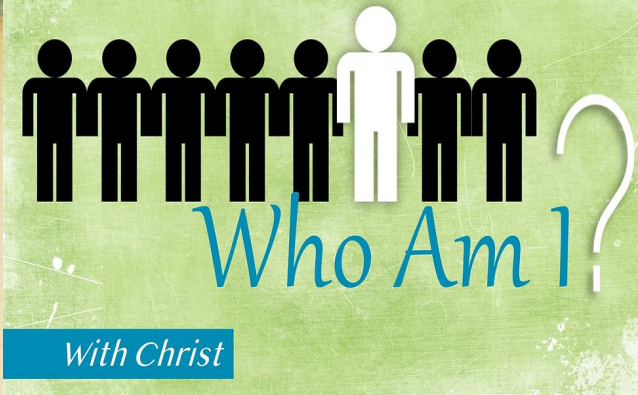
All of these things are fleeting - temporary



With Christ

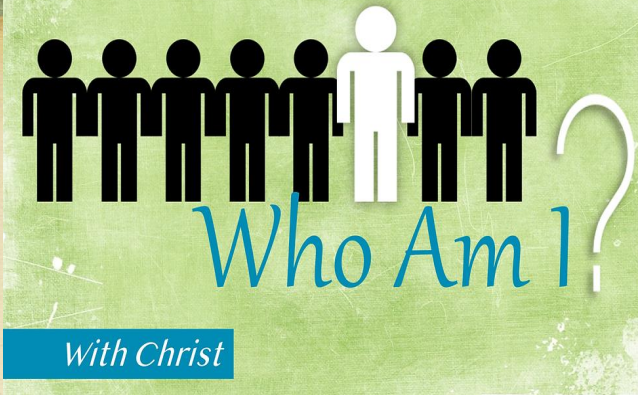
“Who Am I” before God?

- Several people in the old testament asked this question
- Usually showed humility
- 2 Samuel 7:18, 1 Chronicles 17:16 – David’s throne established
- 1 Chronicles 29:14, as David gathers materials for the temple
- 2 Chronicles 2:6, as Solomon makes preparations for the temple



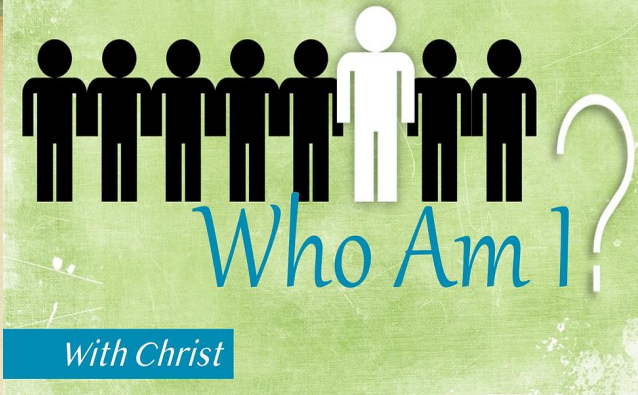
Who Am I before Christ?

- Moses asked this question when the Lord came to him on mount Horeb
- Ex 3:10-12
- Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.”
- ¹¹ But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?”
- ¹² He said, “But I will be with you,
- Mk 16:15 - “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.



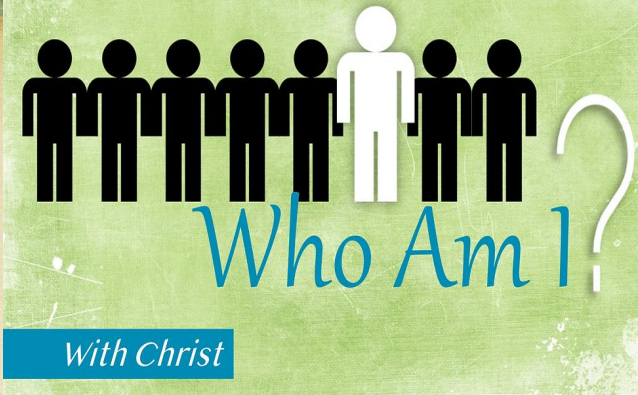
Who Am I before Christ?

- Moses' confidence as a leader grew as he followed God step by step.
- When we consider who God is ("I am") and who we are, how we can become what God created us to be.
- Are we like Moses - Who am I, that God choose me that I should go to the world and help bring people out of darkness and into the light of Christ
- 2 Cor 2:14 - But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere.



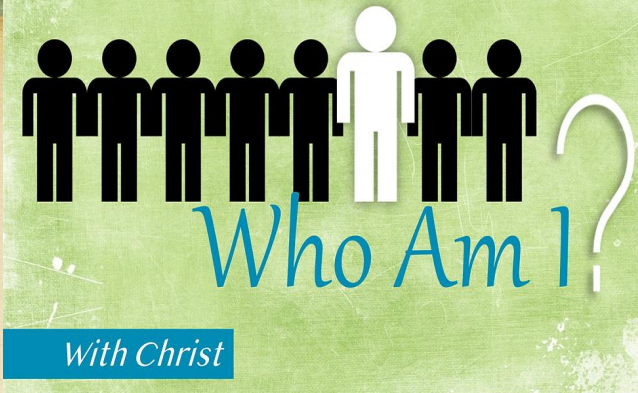
I am created by God -

- Genesis 1:1 tells us that God created the heavens and the earth
- Genesis 2:7 tells us that the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. So, man became a living being.
- Col 1:16 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible,
- Zech 12:1 - ...Thus declares the LORD, who stretched out the heavens and founded the earth and formed the spirit of man within him:



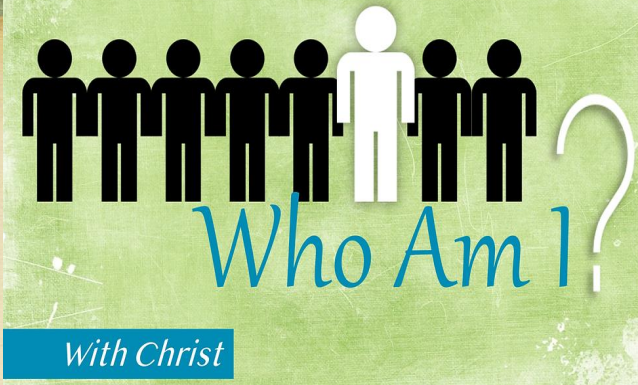
I am created by God -

- Many today struggle with the idea God created man or anything whatsoever
- They declare we are nothing but the product of natural
- Rom 1:20 - For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made.
- Rom 1:28 - And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.



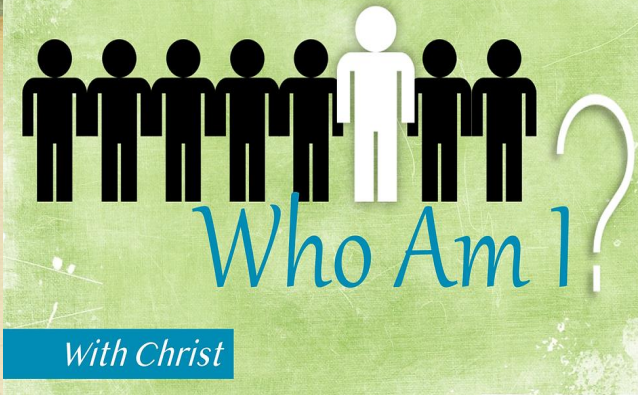
I am created by God -

- Everywhere I look I see design and that calls for a designer
- Psm 19:1 - The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.
- Psm 8:3-4 - When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?
- Only fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things he has done for you.



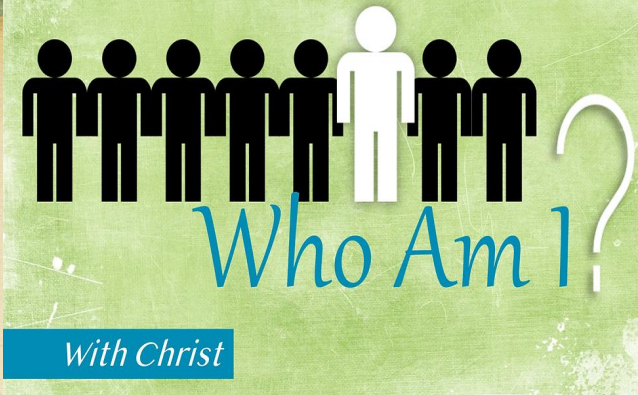
I am created by God -

- Gen 1:26-27 - “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.
- We are different from the rest of creation
 - Ability to reason how things work and use that understanding to improve our quality of life (hopefully)
 - Job 32:8 - But it is the spirit in man, the breath of the Almighty, that makes him understand.
 - 2 Cor 4:16-5:2 – outer and inner man – our dual nature
 - Ecc 12:7 - and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit returns to God who gave it.



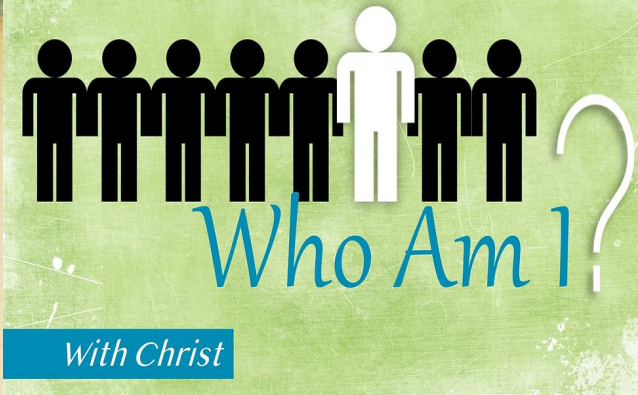
I am loved by God -

- For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
- For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. John 3:16-17
- Salvation is available to EVERYONE – Romans 5:6-8, even though we are unworthy. (Christ died for us)
- Longsuffering – 2 Pet 3:9 - not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.



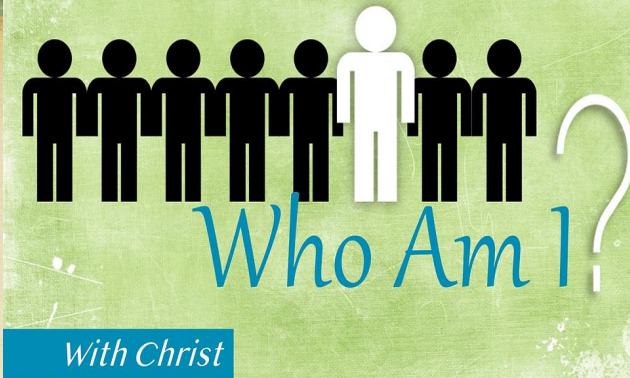
I am loved by God -

- Many struggle with this today for numerous reasons – ultimately, they do not know God!
- God does love me and has proven that – Gave His Son
- Because God loved us – we need to love Him (1 Jn 4:19)
- We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹ And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.



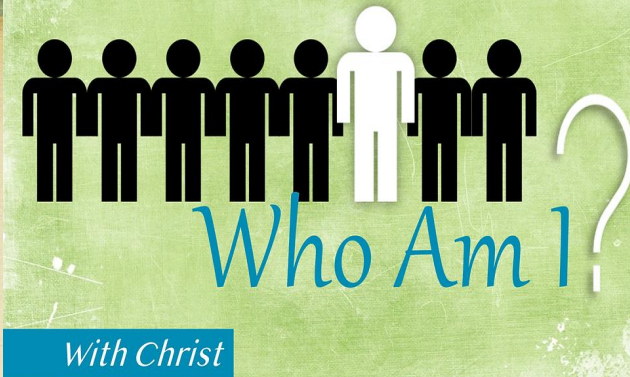
I am subject to God's laws -

- I need to obey God! He has the right to make "the rules"
- Far too many today balk at the idea of following God's laws – many out of rebellion and others out of selfishness.
- LOOK AT WHERE WE ARE AT as a society!
- The world would be a better place if more followed God
- Romans 10:13-16, "Whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" ... but they have not all obeyed the gospel.
- Hebrews 5:9 tells us that Jesus became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him (also - John 14:15)



I am accountable to God –

- When we break God's laws, we are sinners – 1 John 3:4, Romans 3:23.
- Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.
- 2 Thess 1:8-9 - in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. ⁹ They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might,



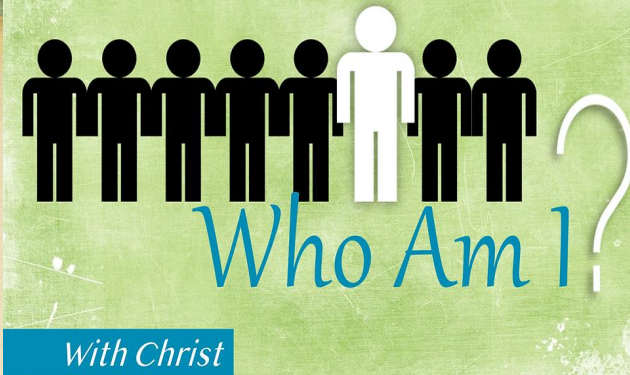
I am accountable to God –

- Someday – we will stand before God to account for how we have lived or lives
- Romans 14:10-12 - For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God;... So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.
- 2 Corinthians 5:10 - For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ,...
- I need to preparing myself to give an account
- Matt 25:14-28 – parable of talents



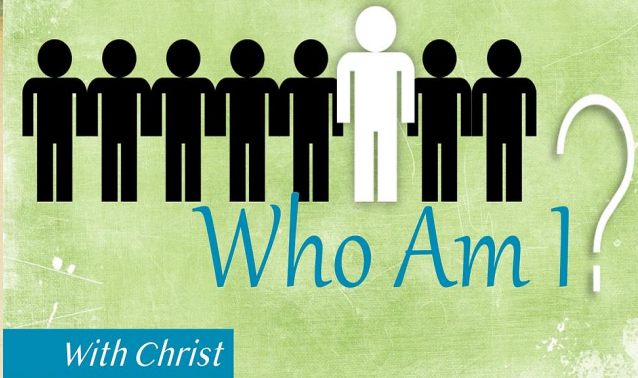
I am what I choose to be –

- Daily we are faced with choices – what direction are we taking our lives?
- Josh 24:14-15 - “Now therefore fear the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵ And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”



I am what I choose to be –

- In the sermon on the mount, Jesus noted there are two paths
- Matt 7:13-14- “Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. ¹⁴ For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.
- Ultimately – we choose which path we will take



I am what I choose to be –

- How will we respond to the words of Jesus the “I AM”
- Matt 7:24-27- Will we listen to Jesus word and do them – like the wise man builds his how on a solid foundation
- Jesus is the foundation we should choose
- Ultimately – we choose which path we will take
- 1 Cor 3:11 - For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. (also Acts 4:12)
- So we all must review our lives – are you living “in Christ”



I am what I choose to be –

➤ What is the duty of man?

➤ Ecc 12:13 -

➤ The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man

➤ Matt 22:37-39 - “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

³⁸ This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰ On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

