

# Identification II: Chapter Two On

## Introduction

Last week we evaluated the principles of identification from Ephesians chapter one and this week we'll continue on from chapter two and attempt to cover the rest of the book. Since the principles of identification are rich and deep we'll attempt to hit the high points and leave an exhaustive study to another class. Previous studies have been done and are available online at the church website<sup>1</sup>.

### A Note on Much More

When Chafer, who published the list of 33 things that were true of the believer, says, "Within the Much More Care of God" we need to understand what he meant by that concept. To clarify here's an excerpt from Systematic Theology Volume 3 page 259:

It will be conceded by all who are awake to the divine revelation, that the love of God for the unsaved is as immeasurable as infinity; yet there is a clear revelation that the expression of divine love for those who are saved is even "much more." The argument is that, if God loved sinners and enemies enough to give His Son to die for them, His attitude will be "much more" toward them when they are reconciled and justified. The Apostle states: "But God commendeth His love toward, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life" (Romans 5:8-10). This inconceivable devotion on the part of God for those He has saved leads on to various blessing for them.<sup>2</sup>

## Passages

### Chapter 2

Within the Much More Care of God – His Love - Eph 2:4

- Mercy: kindness or good will towards the miserable and the afflicted, joined with a desire to help them
- Agape love: abounding benevolent, unmerited love.

Children of God – Made us alive - Eph 2:5

- Alive together with Christ: one Greek word "συνζωοποιέω" means to make alive together with.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://hollyhillsbiblechurch.org/?page\\_id=63&series\\_id=42&series\\_page=20](http://hollyhillsbiblechurch.org/?page_id=63&series_id=42&series_page=20)

<sup>2</sup> Chafer, Lewis. *Systematic Theology*. 1st ed. 3. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 1948. Print.

## A Heavenly Association - Partnership in Position - Eph 2:6

- Raised: “συνεγείρω” to cause to be raised together
- Seated: “συγκαθίζω” to cause to sit down together

## Within the Much More Care of God – His Grace – Eph 2:7

- What is the significance of this passage being a run-on sentence flowing so many ideas together about the believer’s blessings through identification with Christ?

## Children of God – A New Creation - Eph 2:10

- Our being a new creation gives us a new life within which to operate that we would be given the opportunity to do the amazing things that God has planned for us to do. Is this a guarantee that we *will* do the amazing things?
- Should we have concern over past good things we might not have accomplished?
- How does this fit in with the doctrine of justification? Sanctification?

## Made Near - Eph 2:11-13

- This concept of being made near defies merit and gives a relationship that is incomprehensibly deep and powerful
- Required a transaction we could not orchestrate
- Required an agent, Christ, whom we could not facilitate
- Required an offering we could not afford
- Required mercy we could not understand or define
- Requires us only to believe

## Having Access to God - Eph 2:18

- Access: “προσαγωγή” being brought to the Father through Christ *together* in one Spirit (in whom we’re sealed).
- The Trinity is clearly portrayed
- The richness of unity in the body (displayed or not conditionally) is given

## Of the Family and Household of God - Eph 2:19

- fellow citizens: “συμπολίτης” having the same citizenship.
- What would this “same citizenship” mean to Paul? How did his conditional citizenship impact his ministry?

## On the Rock, Christ Jesus - Eph 2:20

- cornerstone: “ἀκρογωνιαίος” the extreme corner stone, denoting highest

## Chapters 3,4 and 5

### Of the Family and Household of God - Eph 3:6

- Jews and Gentiles reconciled into one new body, the Church.
- fellow heirs: “συγκληρονόμος” together heirs
- fellow members: “σύσσωμος” together members of the body
- fellow partakers: “συμμέτοχος” to partake together

### Vitally United to the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit – Eph 4:6

- The Father of all is emphasized in this verse, but His power is shown over all, through all and in all

### Blessed with the Earnest or First-Fruits of the Spirit - Eph 4:30

- The grieving of the Holy Spirit does not cause us to lose our salvation sealed by Him
- We are sealed with security and permanency

### Forgiven all Trespasses - Eph 4:32

- The forgiveness of God the Father, through Christ’s work for us, causing us to be in Him, is what we are to reflect to other believers

### Within the Much More Care of God – His love - Eph 5:2

- In the same way our love is to reflect the love that Christ loved us with, and spread that to other brothers and sisters in Christ

### Light of the Lord – Eph 5:8

- Our walk is to reflect the walk that comes from being in the light, or former walk is not becoming of us.