

# BE STRONG IN THE GRACE IN CHRIST

I. Our grace position In Christ 2 Tim 2:1; 1 Cor. 15:10

II. Grace gave us a new identity

A. Identity is what defines who you really are

B. Identity influences how you think, view, and feel about yourself – then how you act

C. Identity is important to understand because it precedes behavior

1. Who we are determines what we Do (actions flow out from who we perceive ourselves to be)

2. N.T. order is not “Do in order to Be” but “Because this is Who you really are, now Do”

3. Our identity “In Christ” is a major emphasis in the N.T. to holiness, overcoming sin, and victory

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## III. Grace changed things

A. The order of Divine blessing and human obligation

Under Law: human obligation 1<sup>st</sup> – Divine blessing 2<sup>nd</sup>

Under Grace: Divine blessing 1<sup>st</sup> – human obligation 2<sup>nd</sup>

B. The power depended upon to fulfill the obligation

Under Law: man's work/fleshly energy

Under Grace: Jesus work/Divine nature, life, and spirit within