

Mistaken Identity – Have You Forgotten Who You Are? (SMBC 2021)

Scripture Text: 1 John 1:9

Identity: (noun) the fact of being who or what a person or thing is.

Our identity has a lot to say about us; it can be influenced or affected by a slew of things:

- Job
- Neighborhood
- Family
- Hobbies
- Education
- Friendship circle

Our purpose: for those who have fallen away, to see where you were; how you got where you are; and how to get back to where you were.

1. Who Were You?

- A. A Christian
 1. How do we become a Christian? Hear, believe, repent, confess, baptism
 2. Examples – put into practice:
 - a. Cornelius – Ac. 10 & 11 – **Ac. 11:13-14**
 - b. Eunuch – **Ac. 8:36** “*what doth hinder me?*”
 - c. Jailer – **Ac. 16:33** – same hour, straightway, immediately
- B. Why are we called Christians?
 1. **Ac. 20:28** – Jesus shed His Blood
 2. **Gal. 2:20** – crucified with Christ

2. What Separated You?

- A. Sin
 1. Defined: “missing the mark.” **1 John 3:4**
 2. Commission vs. Omission – **James 4:17**
 3. “It is always **right** to do right. It is always **wrong** to do wrong. It is **never right** to do wrong. It is **never wrong** to do right. And that’s **right** because the Bible’s right.” Dan Jenkins

- B. What does the Bible say?
 1. **Isa. 59:1-2** – it is not God’s fault
 2. **Rom. 3:23** – all sin – not an excuse to sin!
 3. **Rom. 6:23** – sin = death
 4. **2 Peter 2:20-22** – scariest verses: danger of falling away; better if hadn’t known

3. How Do I Get Back?

- A. Must realize the need
 1. **Lk. 15:17** – prodigal son came to himself
 2. Feel like your life is in a circle with no hope to get out? Stop and turn to God!
- B. What does the Bible say?
 1. **1 John 1:9** – confess our sins & He will forgive
 2. **James 1:21-25** – man who forgets what he looks like
 3. **Rev. 2:1-7** – church at Ephesus
 - a. Previously had a doctrine problem, **Ac. 20:28-30, 1 Tim. 4:3** (Timothy in Ephesus)
 - b. Now has a love problem – remember your first love
 - c. Key to fixing the problem: **repent!**

What if you’ve never obeyed the Gospel? See the steps in point 1.

What if you’re a Christian and faithful? Keep pressing forward!

What if you’ve forgotten your identity? See the steps in point 3.

Remember: **Rom. 8:1** – no condemnation in Jesus Christ!

We’ve looked at **32** verses now, “what will you do with Jesus? The question comes to you! What shall your answer be?”

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a PowerPoint, № 153, accompanies this lesson online

July 15, 2021 AM Short Mountain Bible Camp
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