

March 18, 2013

# EXTREME FAITH

**Knowing God is  
Knowing Who  
We Are !**

When we know God we  
begin to understand who we  
are in God.

Who we are in God is who  
we really are!



## KNOWING GOD IS KNOWING OURSELVES

**How well do you know God? How well do you know yourself?**

I have to say that it is so exciting when you find something that you have read before in God's word and when you read it again it just jumps out at you with a POP! and A BANG! Let's take a look at this awesome section from the Bible! It is found in Colossians 2:6-8.

This is life changing stuff, this is thank you God I know who I am and who I am suppose to be stuff! The title section in the NIV Bible is this ***Freedom From Human Regulations Through Life With Christ.*** Lets check it out verse by verse.

2: 6 So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, 7 rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. Would you describe yourself this way as a person who is rooted and built up in Jesus, strengthened in faith, overflowing with Boasting for God? That's just what this verse is talking about. I think it is so cool that when we accept Jesus as our Lord we become something so awesome and so cool! I love the description of being overflowing with praise, thankfulness and

boasting for God. I think we have been trained from a small age that overflowing is a messy thing and something to avoid, but there it is in the Bible to be overflowing and a mess for God. How would you be different if you were a mess for God? Would your friends notice a difference in you, would you look and act differently than you do now? Having Bold courage is knowing who we are because we are His.

Check out verse eight, See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ. Wow how many times have I thought something was true because man tried to make it true. How many times have I been taken captive and stripped of my identity in Christ because I believed in something that was not true. My identity in Christ tells me that I am awesome and have power because God is the power source for me. We must remember who our Daddy is and how much He loves us... Cont. Page 3



There is all kinds of talk about identity theft now a days... Everyone is careful to keep their social security numbers hidden away. You have to keep everything password protected, imagine if someone got ahold of your facebook or email account. They could pretend to be you...

Identity theft is not new, nope the thief has been stealing and killing and destroying peoples identity since the beginning of time.

What is your God created identity? Are you living in it or has it been stolen? It takes courage to know your God Identity, and to live it out every day keeps it protected!

# Knowing Who God Is, Tells Us Who We Are

Kings and Queens by Audio Adrenaline

Little hands, shoeless feet, lonely eyes looking back at me  
Will we leave behind the innocent too brief  
On their own, on the run when their lives have only begun  
These could be our daughters and our sons  
And just like a drum I can hear their hearts beating  
I know my God won't let them be defeated  
Every child has a dream to belong and be loved

[Chorus:]

Boys become kings, girls will be queens  
Wrapped in Your majesty  
When we love, when we love the least of these  
Then they will be brave and free  
Shout your name in victory  
When we love when we love the least of these  
When we love the least of these

Break our hearts once again  
Help us to remember when  
We were only children hoping for a friend  
Won't you look around these are the lives that the world has forgotten  
Waiting for doors of our hearts and our homes to open

[Chorus]

If not us who will be like Jesus  
To the least of these  
If not us tell me who will be like Jesus  
Like Jesus to the least of these

Boys become kings, girls will be queens  
Wrapped in your majesty  
When we love, when we love the least of these  
Then they will be brave and free shout your name in victory  
We will love we will love the least of these  
We will love the least of these  
We will love the least of these  
We will love the least of these  
We will love the least of these  
We will love the least of these



This song is featured on the Kings & Queens album by Audio Adrenaline

# COURAGE

David said to the Philistine, You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. **This day the Lord will hand you over to me, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. Today I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give all of you into our hands.**

Courage to face the enemies in our lives is found in the knowledge that the battle belongs to God. Our courage comes from God and us knowing who we are in God! Know God and you will have courage to face all the battles that come at you! You will win and you will have victory as you learn more about God! The more that you know about God the more you learn who you really are!

## Think About it

What if you knew who you were truly who you are, the way that God sees you. I mean when God looks at you what does He see. When we learn who we are in God, it changes us to be more like God and to think about life as God thinks about life. It is God who said we can do everything through him (Jesus) who gives us strength. This is how God sees live, maybe we need to see life as God sees it. And see ourselves as God see us!

## Knowing God Knowing ourselves cont.

What does your identity in Christ tell you about yourself? Does it direct you and cause you to change the direction that you are going at times, does it keep you safe and keep you from ending up in the wrong places.

Your Identity is who you are as God knows you, as you know you and how other people know you. Do you friends at school know who you are in God? Do they know who you really are? Knowing who God says you are is the key to living for God! This we can not keep a secret! We have to know who we are in God, and allow other people to know that as well. God is so awesome, and David knew that, so much that when he was talking about killing the lion and the bear he gave God all of the glory and all of the praise for the battles. So when it was time for him to stand up to Goliath and claim that battle he let everyone know and see that it was God who made David who he was! David declared that it was God who was going to win the battle that day.

When you go out to battle, which we do everyday we have to know who God is and we have to know who God made us to be. Facing Giants is our job and we can be so successful at this task when we have our God given identity warped around us. The battle will take courage but God has our backs and the courage we need is completely in us as we trust in God.

We are to be rooted and built up in Jesus, so that no matter what the storms are or what giant comes our way we will not be shaken. Being rooted in Him is a close and intimate description of Jesus being the life source for all that we are. Getting your life from Jesus is the key and depending upon Him and growing in Him will lead you to be who He made you to be. Be all that you can for Jesus, be all that you are through Him and the adventures will just keep coming.

Trust in Him and get rid of everything else that you put your trust in, it will only fail you! Jesus will never fail you!



Get out there and take the challenge and face your giants today, knowing that the Battle is the Lord's and He has your back! You can do it and God will show you how!





**YOUR IDENTITY DEFINED BY GOD**

These statements are true, Pick three statements of who you are in God that you really identify with! Then on the next page write one or two lines about why those statements mean so much to you....

I am the light of the world (Matthew 5:14).

I am firmly rooted, built up, established in my faith and overflowing with gratitude (Colossians 2:7).

I can do all things through Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:13).

I am God's child for I am born again of the incorruptible seed of the Word of God, which lives and abides forever (1 Peter 1:23).

I am more than a conqueror through Him Who loves me (Romans 8:37).

I am forgiven of all my sins and washed in the Blood (Ephesians 1:7).

It is not I who live, but Christ lives in me (Galatians 2:20).

I am called of God to be the voice of His praise (Psalm 66:8; 2 Timothy 1:9).

I am submitted to God, and the devil flees from me because I resist him in the Name of Jesus (James 4:7).

I am God's possession (Genesis 17:8, 1Cor 6:20)

For God has not given us a spirit of fear; but of power, love, and a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7).

I am God's child (John 1:12)

I am God's soldier (2 Timothy 2:3)

I am God's precious jewel (Malachi 3:17)

I am alive with Christ (Ephesians 2:5).

I am far from oppression, and fear does not come near me (Isaiah 54:14).

I am born of God, and the evil one does not touch me (1 John 5:18).

I have the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2:16; Philippians 2:5).

I have the peace of God that passes all understanding (Philippians 4:7).

I have put off the old man and have put on the new man, which is renewed in the knowledge after the image of Him Who created me (Colossians 3:9,10).

I am part of a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a purchased people (1 Peter 2:9).

**STEP ONE:**

Know who you are in God!

**STEP TWO:**

Believe who God says you are!

**STEP THREE:**

Live it out! Live in the truth! not the lies!

What three statements really stood out to you and why? Write out which statements stood out to you and write out why they stood out to you...

Statement One:

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Statement Two:

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Statement Three:

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## TAKE SOME TIME AND JOURNAL.

Look it over, read the story again, dig into the questions and write out your

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# MODERN EXTREMES

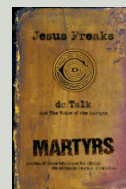
## "A Christian Is Chosen by Jesus Christ" Kehdi Diba j Iran 1944

"Men choose a religion, but a Christian is chosen by Jesus Christ. To be a Christian means to belong to Christ. Jesus asked me to renounce even my life, to follow Him faithfully, not to fear the world even if my body must perish, I prefer to know that God, the Almighty, is with me, even if it means that the whole world is against me. "I am in God's hands. For 45 years I have walked with the God of miracles, and His goodness is for me a shadow that protects me in His love. "The God of Daniel, who protected his friends, protected me during my nine years in prison, and all torments changed to my good, so that I have the fullness of love and gratitude. "Of all the prophets, Jesus alone was resurrected from the dead, and He remains our living Mediator forever. I gave my life into His hands. For me, life is an opportunity to serve Him, and death is the privilege of getting to be with Him." Pastor Mehdi Dibaj of Iran was on trial for his life, and these words were the defense he gave in court. An upperclass Muslim, he and his family had converted to Christianity. He had dared to translate Christian radio programs and books into the Farsi language. He was arrested in 1985 and accused of apostasy, denying the Muslim faith. For this, he faced the death penalty. In Iran, social and political pressure is sometimes used to force Christians to recant their new-found faith in Jesus Christ. Some are even tortured. Dibaj was imprisoned alone for two years in a cramped hole with no room to stretch his legs. While he was in prison, his wife, Azizeh, left Dibaj and was forced to marry a Muslim. When Dibaj steadfastly refused to deny his faith, the court condemned him to death. But after one

month he was set free because of international attention that had been brought to his case. Soon after this, however, he was found dead in a park. It is believed by some that Islamic leaders had called for his execution. Despite losing their father, his four children remain faithful to Jesus Christ. As he faced the court that would sentence him to death, Pastor Dibaj said, "I prefer to know that God, the Almighty, is with me, even if it means that the whole world is against me." He had learned the secret of being able to stand alone among men — standing with God.

Pray for radio programs that preach the Gospel to Muslims. Pray for safety for all those involved. Pray for the listeners, that the Word of God will penetrate their darkness and bring them to new life in Jesus Christ.

Death is much sweeter to me with the testimony of truth than life with the least denial. Gelezium Martyred in St. Angelo, Italy Middle Ages



Featured Story  
from the book  
Jesus Freaks by  
Dr. Talk and the  
voice of the  
Martyrs



Living life with  
Extreme faith  
and  
Extreme vision

**EXTREME FAITH  
MAGAZINE**

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