

S A I N T S

As for the saints who are in the earth,
They are the majestic ones in whom is all my delight.
(Psalm 16:3)

To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who
have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, saints by calling, with
all who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus
Christ, their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ.

(1 Corinthians 1:2, 3)

**Saints—“Holy ones,” “Set apart ones,” are all true believers
in our glorious Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.**

We, the believers, have a new identity. The church in Corinth consisted of some of the most carnal believers. Just read the apostle Paul’s letters to that church to understand this fact. They had a lot of spiritual and moral deficiencies, but regardless of their behaviors, Paul calls them saints. Why? The apostle Paul calls them saints, because of their true faith; he addresses them as saints because of their position in Jesus Christ. Thank you Jesus!

Before we received Jesus, we were sinners—lost, separated from God, in darkness, and the dominion of Satan. But that all changed when Jesus came to live in us through the Holy Spirit. Now we are called “saints.”

**We are saints not because of what we do; we are saints because of who we are.
And it is who we are that determines what we do!**

We must believe it and act upon it! As a man thinks, so he is. If you think of yourself as a sinner, then sinning will be the most natural thing to do. Right? Rather, think of yourself as who you really are—a saint, then sinning will become the furthest thing from your mind.

I read a story of an interesting custom in a South Pacific culture, where men traded cows for a wife. Two cows for a wife were to be given to her father as an average deal. For an exceptionally beautiful girl, four cows were traded in. There was a very homely girl, and her father would have gladly given her away for one cow. On the same island lived a rich trader who, to everybody’s amazement, gave eight cows for the homely looking girl. Before long the girl was transformed into a beautiful and gracious woman. She had been thinking of herself as an “eight-cow woman,” and she became one.

Beloved, begin each day seeing yourself as God sees you, and keep that thought as you go throughout your day. In Christ Jesus you have been made complete (Colossians 2:10),

holy and blameless (Ephesians 1:4), and you are being transformed into the same image of the Lord (2 Corinthians 3:18). Look at yourself through God's eyes. He is looking at your heart, and when He sees Jesus, He is pleased with you. He loves you. You are His treasured one. He accepted you in His beloved Son, and He has forgiven you all your sins! His love and grace will become your motivation for godly living.

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men,
instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age,
looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus;
who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

(Titus 2:11–14)

Next time a temptation comes your way, remember who you are—a saint. Nowhere in the New Testament is a believer called sinner. The Scriptures were not written just for the believers. The Word of God is for all people. Remember, any time a person speaks to a group of people you will have both, believers and unbelievers. Only God knows who is saved and who is not.

. . . the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

(2 Timothy 3:15)

The simple truth is that an unbeliever is called a sinner, and a believer is called a saint.

To all who are beloved of God in Rome, called as saints:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

(Romans 1:7)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, to the church of God which is at Corinth with all the saints who are throughout Achaia. . .

(2 Corinthians 1:1)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints who are at Ephesus, and who are faithful in Christ Jesus:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

(Ephesians 1:1, 2)

Paul and Timothy, bondservants of Christ Jesus, to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, including the overseers and deacons:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

(Philippians 1:1, 2)

Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

to the saints and faithful brethren in Christ who are at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

(Colossians 1:1, 2)

The apostle Paul describes in a letter to Timothy what a sinner he formerly was. He was a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a violent aggressor.

It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all.

(1 Timothy 1:15)

Prior to this statement, Paul is testifying about the abundant grace of our Lord, and the faith and love, which are found in Christ Jesus. It is sufficient even for a sinner like Paul, and he considers himself one of the worst. But even a sinner like Paul, who acted ignorantly in unbelief, was shown mercy, in order that in him Jesus Christ might demonstrate His perfect patience as an example for those who would believe in Him for eternal life. Even as a believer in Christ, Paul calls himself the very least of all saints (Ephesians 3:8). In other words, Paul is saying that no matter what one has done, God's grace is sufficient. He is saying, "Look what I have done, and if God could save me, the foremost sinner of all, surely He can save you."

All things are possible with God.

Everyone was a sinner before being saved by God's grace. If you are a Christian, you are called a saint. Beloved brothers and sisters, the truth is clear for all to see, now is the time to act upon it and bring forth good fruit in abundance.

And this is just what I did in Jerusalem; not only did I lock up many of the saints in prisons, having received authority from the chief priests, but also when they were being put to death I cast my vote against them.

(Acts 26:10)

And He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

(Romans 8:27)

For the ministry of this service is not only fully supplying the needs of the saints, but is also overflowing through many thanksgivings to God.

(2 Corinthians 9:12)

But do not let immorality or any impurity or greed even be named among you, as is proper among saints; and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.

(Ephesians 5:3, 4)

For I have come to have much joy and comfort in your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, brother.

(Philemon 1:7)