

## Greater Works Christian Church

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### The Battle Over Your Identity

#### Jesus is Baptized- His Identity Declared

##### Matthew 3:13-17

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him.

14 And John *tried to* prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?"

15 But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit *it to be so* now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him.

16 When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.

17 And suddenly a voice *came* from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

This is where the Identity of Jesus is revealed and made manifest for everyone to see and understand, including Jesus. Jesus now hears Father God declare that He is His Son.

When Father declared this He wasn't merely saying that Jesus was His Son in a familial way, but He was declaring that Jesus was His equal in everything. This was what it meant to be a Son in this time.

***Sonship- Equality with the Father was the Identity of Jesus.***

**Very Important:** satan did not want Jesus to know and accept who He was. Father God wanted Jesus to know and fully accept who He was.

It is the same for you and I today. Father wants us to know who we are and to fully accept it, causing us to walk in the authority of our identity.

**Questions:** Try to imagine what Jesus must have felt like hearing Father, God declare, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

If this happened to you, what would you be feeling? What would be going through your mind?

## Jesus is Tempted- The Battle Over His Identity

### Matthew 4:1-11

- 1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.
- 2 And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry.
- 3 Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."
- 4 But He answered and said, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE, BUT BY EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS FROM THE MOUTH OF GOD.' "
- 5 Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple,
- 6 and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'HE SHALL GIVE HIS ANGELS CHARGE OVER YOU,' and, IN THEIR HANDS THEY SHALL BEAR YOU UP, LEST YOU DASH YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.' "
- 7 Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'YOU SHALL NOT TEMPT THE LORD YOUR GOD.' "
- 8 Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.
- 9 And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."
- 10 Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND HIM ONLY YOU SHALL SERVE.' "
- 11 Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

Jesus won the Battle of Heart over His Identity and went onto fulfill His calling as Miracle Working Savior.

In at least three places Jesus was tempted and test in regards to His identity.

### **"If You are the Son of God..."**

- 3 Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."
- 6 and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'HE SHALL GIVE HIS ANGELS CHARGE OVER YOU,' and, IN THEIR HANDS THEY SHALL BEAR YOU UP, LEST YOU DASH YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.' "
- 9 And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."

The greatest battle you will face in your life is the battle over your identity. Everything in your life is directly linked and tied to your identity, thus everything is tied to this battle over your identity.

**Question:** After Father, God declared Jesus to His Son, satan came and questioned Jesus' identity. Why would satan question the identity of Jesus these three times?

Satan questioned the identity of Jesus. Is it possible that satan would do the same to you? If yes, why? If no, why?

Also, your identity in Christ is directly linked and tied to the identity of Jesus. How you view Christ- truly view Christ- will determine how you view yourself.

**Galatians 2:20**

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Most don't have a problem quoting this, but very few have actually lived this. The reason is, because most have such a small view of Christ. The "Christ" (so to speak) that they have living in them is small, weak and insignificant.

This is not to say that the True Christ is small, weak and insignificant. It's merely the image of Christ that many have. It is unfortunate but many Christians are serving a small Jesus.

In order for us to see ourselves as we should, we MUST begin by seeing Jesus as He is!

**Luke 10:19**

Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Jesus was able to say this to His followers- you and I- because of this truth:

**Matthew 28:18**

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

**Conclusion:** How do you view yourself? Is your self-view the same as God's view of you? Have you won the battle over your identity? If not, then you will need to do this before your True Ministry begins.

**Question:** How do you view yourself? Do you see yourself as having authority over all the power of the enemy? If yes, why? If no, why?

Is it arrogant to think of yourself as having all authority over the power of the enemy? If yes, why? If no, why?