

50 POSITIONAL TRUTHS

#47: “COMPLETE IN HIM”

The biblical teaching that we are “complete in Him” demonstrates the essence of positional truth as such. That is, positional truth is all about a believer’s position in Christ and *not* an experiential status. No believer is experientially “complete in Him.” To be complete means that one cannot add one more thing, one more improvement, to a person to make him better. Complete is perfection! No believer is experientially perfect. As far as our status on earth, we are all works in progress.

It is lamentable that there is such gross ignorance of positional truth. This is not only true among the scattered rank and file Christians, but seminarians and “theologs” as well. Imagine, for a moment, what it would be like not to understand positional truth. If you can, imagine what it must be like for a person to think that it was up to him to be complete or righteous before God. Unfortunately, this is the way not only many Protestants live, it is the religious system of the Roman Catholics. Let me explain: The Roman Catholics believe that when a person “is saved,” God gives that person a perfect or righteous soul. The bottom line here is that this righteousness or completion is *intrinsic* to the person. Now that the believer has a righteous soul, he must maintain that righteousness through the religious paraphernalia of the “Church.” This is in contrast to the view of Protestants which is that the righteousness of Christ is imputed (attributed) and not infused. In the Roman Catholic system God points to an internal or intrinsic righteousness in the believer, in Protestantism God points to extrinsic righteousness: He points to Jesus Christ. This is the essence of positional truth. Positional truths have absolutely nothing to do with what is in us; positional truth is all about what is in Jesus Christ, and we are simply blessed because we are “in Him.” We are in Christ and complete in Him regardless of our temporal lives—whether we are moving to supergrace or backsliding into reversionism.

All of the positional truths comprise the fully accomplished work of Jesus Christ *for* us! They are all superhuman; the work of God alone: if man could even have any part of the work, it would at that point of contact be imperfect. Positional truths are marvels of God’s works of grace which will someday be completely fulfilled. We are all one day closer to being with God, one day closer to moving into the “completion in Christ” that we possess positionally.

To know our perfect standing in Christ does not lead to laxity in our daily lives: it is the strongest possible incentive to a grace oriented life. Carelessness of life does not result from grasping our positional completeness in Christ. The divine order cannot be safely ignored, which is first to reveal our grace positions, and then to appeal to us for the corresponding manner of daily life. When believers are fed with *mere* injunctions (generally wrong-headed, emotional, narcissistic, and low quality as far as view of God) with no reference to grace or corresponding and related positions, there is eventual failure, disappointment, and the hardening of the heart as the believer spends all of his time beating the bushes in an attempt to be “complete in Him” by his own efforts. The believer who knows he is already complete in Christ enjoys the freedom,

grace, and acceptance by God that truly impels him to advance in the spiritual life for experiential completion through spiritual growth.

Colossians 2:10 and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority;

In Christ,

Pastor Don