Embrace Your God-given Identity

I. UNDERSTANDING THE REAL BATTLE OVER YOUR GOD-GIVEN IDENTITY

A. Mankind Created in God's Image

1. God created mankind in His own image and likeness, lacking nothing.

Genesis 1:27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

2. The Bible is like a mirror where you can discover God's identity and your identity.

God's identity = "God is love." 1 John 4:16

Your identity = I am the one whom God loves. I am God's beloved child. (Jn. 3:16; Matt. 3:17)

1 John 4:16 NKJV And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.

3. God's image bearers were created to be God's representative here on this earth of His great love, expressing His character, exercising His authority, displaying His power, and establishing God's kingdom of love on earth as in heaven.

Genesis 1:28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over... every living thing that moves on the earth."

4. When God created Adam and Eve, they perfectly reflected God's image. Their spirit contained the very breath of God, the very spirit of God, the very life and power of God Himself. They were God's dwelling place here on this earth.

B. Mankind's Identity Assaulted by satan

- 1. Because satan, God's archenemy hated God, he hated Adam and Eve. Why? Because they were made in God's image and likeness. This means from the time you were born, satan hated you because you are made in God's image.
- 2. satan executed a deceptive plan to steal Adam and Eve's God-given identity. Why? Because he desired to usurp mankind's authority and dominion overall the earth, gain access to all they possessed, enslave them for his evil purposes and plans, and establish his kingdom of darkness on the earth.
- 3. satan approached Eve with his cunning lies, twisting God's words (The Truth, the absolute Truth) and projecting into their minds a distorted image of God's identity and their identity. Listen to the identity war - the "GOD SAID" - "satan said" war.
 - GOD SAID Genesis 2:16-17 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."
 - satan said Genesis 3:1-4 He (satan) said to the woman, "Has God indeed said ... You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."
- 4. Through satan's fraudulent words he insinuated that God was a liar and that mankind was NOT created in God's image and likeness, assaulting God's identity and their God-given identity.

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5. Satan's mode of operation has not changed since the garden of Eden. Relentlessly, he works behind the scenes in the invisible realm against God's image bearers, trying to make us believe his lies and disbelieve God's Word through deception.

C. Common Ways Your Archenemy Attempts to Trick You into Embracing a False Identity

- 1. satan tries to deceive you into believing a false identity about God and about yourself, as revealed through this encounter with Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden. (See Genesis 3:1-4)
- 2. "Has God indeed said..." Identity Questioned
- 3. "not" Identity Denial
- 4. "You will not surely die." Identity Consequences Falsified
- 5. "your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God" Identity Confusion

D. Your Choice of Identity

- 1. Adam and Eve were faced with a choice. They could either believe and obey God, walking in their God-given identity **OR** believe and obey satan coming, knowingly or unknowingly, into agreement with satan's identity for their lives.
- 2. Identity definition: "Sameness in all that constitutes the objective reality of a thing; ONENESS." (Webster's 1828 dictionary)
- 3. You have a choice of you will identify or become one with. One choice leads to life and blessing and the other choice leads to death and cursing just like God says in Deuteronomy 30:19

Deuteronomy 30:19 I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; that you may love the LORD your God, that you may obey His voice...

At www.CamarilloHealing.com See Resources/Teachings Series - "Choices Determine Destiny"

E. Acceptance of a False Identity

- 1. Unfortunately, Adam and Eve lost sight of their God-given identity. As a result, they chose to trust satan's words and eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, directly disobeying God's command. Consequently, they subjected themselves and the whole human race to the law of sin and death. (Rom. 5:12)
 - Gen. 2:17 ... but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."
- 2. Through believing and acting on satan's lie, Adam and Eve were tricked into accepting a false identity for their lives.
 - John 8:44 You are of your father the devil... He... does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. ... for he is a liar and the father of it.
- 3. Satan's malevolent crime against humanity was successfully carried out. satan had stolen mankind's God-given identity, accessing their authority and possessions, and causing their Godgiven image to be marred.

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II. YOUR CORE GOD-GIVEN IDENTITY "IN CHRIST"

A. New Creation "In Christ"

- 1. Because of God's great love for the world, God gave Jesus Christ, His only Son, to die our death on the cross, providing mankind with the only way our God-given identity could be redeemed. (John 3:16)
- 2. The moment you invite Jesus Christ into your heart as your Lord and Savior a miracle of miracles takes place. You become a new creation in Christ.
 - 2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.
 - Your old identity in Adam "passed away." It perished or ceased to exist.
 - God's power was released into your human spirit, making you into a new creation in Christ, where all things have become new.
- 3. The blood of Jesus made this new creation miracle possible. (Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:13-14; Rom. 5:9)

Recommended Resources on "Identity" at www.CamarilloHealing.com

<u>Resources/Prayer</u> – Who I am in Christ; Communion – Receive All His Benefits; Father's Love Letter <u>Resources/Teaching</u> – Under "Filter by Topic" click on "Identity in Christ"