

WHO DO YOU BELONG TO?

INTRO

If you are precious, you belong to somebody...

I. TO WHOM DO YOU BELONG?

A. The Jews of Jesus' day: "We don't belong to anybody!"

³³ [The Jews] answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?" ³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin." (John 8)

B. Irenaeus (early Christian of c. 200 AD):

The truly devout man is the right kind of coin, stamped by God Himself. The ungodly man, again, is false coin, unlawful, spurious, counterfeit, wrought not by God, but by the devil. I do not mean to say that there are two different human natures, but that there is one humanity, some belong to God, and some to the devil.... The believing possess the image of their Prince, God the Father, and Jesus Christ (Against Heresies)

II. NEW SERIES: YOU BELONG TO GOD

A. You're his special treasure!

⁵ Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine (Exodus 19)

⁶ For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. (Deuteronomy 7)

² For you are a people holy to the LORD your God, and the LORD has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. (Deuteronomy 14)

¹⁸ And the LORD has declared today that you are a people for his treasured possession ... (Deuteronomy 26)

⁴ For the LORD has chosen Jacob for himself, Israel as his own possession. (Psalm 135)

B. You are connected with him as Precious Sheep to a Good Shepherd

Jesus said:

¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. (John 10)

God's people say:

³ For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. ⁴ In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. ⁵ The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land. ⁶ Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! ⁷ For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. (Psalm 95)

Every believer can say:

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. ² He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. ³ He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. (Psalm 23)

C. You are connected to God as Lover to His Beloved

^{2:16} My beloved is mine, and I am his; he grazes among the lilies.

*^{6:3} I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine; he grazes among the lilies.
(Song of Solomon)*

III. YOU ARE MORE THAN YOU KNOW

A. Scripture sometimes speaks of us as two-part beings: Material/Immaterial

¹ Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God. (2 Corinthians 7)

⁵ For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ. (Colossians 2)

B. Scripture sometimes speaks of us as three-part beings: Spirit/Soul/Body

²³ Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (I Thessalonians 5)

C. Your **whole** person belongs to God

IV. CALL FOR THE OUTWARD PERSON: *Trouble with the uber-spiritual Corinthians*

1 Corinthians 6 -

A. "I'm a Christian ... I'm a believer ... but I'm not a legalist - nor a prude either!"

They said:

¹³ "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food"

B. BUT! *"The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body."*

C. Come on! Really? "It's just sex...."

Let's work backwards:

¹⁷ But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.

¹⁴ And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. ¹⁵ Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?

D. Put Jesus in bed with a prostitute??

^{15b} Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶ Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two will become one flesh."

E. We're going to talk more about sex... a lot more.

¹⁸ Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.

F. The WHY -

¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰ for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body. (1 Corinthians 6)

V. A WHOLE PERSON LIVING IN LOVE

“You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body”

- You are not your own - You _____
- You were bought with a price – You are not _____
- You were bought with a price – You are _____
- You are not _____
- You are called to _____
- You are invited to _____

Only the totality of the person is sufficient enough to praise and enjoy the Obne you love

VI. SO WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO TONIGHT, PINKIE?