

The Believer – In Christ – Lesson 1 Notes

Paul or John usage

- to designate a **close personal relation** in which the reference of the ἐν-term (Christ in this case) is viewed as the **controlling influence: under the control of, under the influence of, in close association with**

In Paul the relation of the individual to Christ is very oft. expressed by such phrases as ἐν Χριστῷ, ἐν κυρίῳ (Eph. 4:1) – BDAG

The preposition ἐν with a dative (Χριστῷ) is called a local dative

Our use in this case is the Spherical Dative “in ‘the sphere of’ Christ”

- To designate a close intimate personal relation
- Of that in which any person or thing is inherently fixed, implanted, or with which it is intimately connected
- Of the whole in which a part is permanently in

Ephesians 1:1,3,2:6,7,10,13,3:6,21,4:32

ἐν Χριστῷ occurrences

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| • 1:1 faithful in Christ | • 2:13 brought near in Christ |
| • 1:3 blessed in Christ | • 3:6 partakers of the promise in Christ |
| • 2:6 raised up and seated in Christ | • 3:21 glory in Christ |
| • 2:7 riches in Christ | • 4:32 forgiven in Christ |
| • 2:10 created in Christ | |

It's where we are to be directed with a result of only gain

The Believer – In Christ – Lesson 1 Notes (Continued)

What about “in Christ”?

Rooted in a Personal RELATIONSHIP

- Between us and God
- Requires time
- Responsibility as Royal Priest
- We have nothing good to offer on our own
- The mind of Christ is how we are able to objectively examine ourselves
- A relationship with God is how we glorify Him in our bodies

1:1 faithful in Christ

**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:**

πιστός (pistos) -adj, faithful/believing

What is faith?

Heb 11:1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen

ἐλπίς- noun, expectation/trust/confidence

Prov. 3:5 *Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding.*

Prov. 3:6 *In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.*