

THE TRUEST THING ABOUT YOU³

August 30, 2015 John 15:18-25 by Bob Branch
Staying Free, Part 4

BIG IDEA: The truest thing about you is *not* what you do, what you have or what you desire. Not your past, your pain or your fear. If you've received Christ, the truest thing about you is that you are chosen by God, and therefore, no longer of this world, but a citizen of heaven.

1. If you allow the truest thing about you to define you, it will mean **TROUBLE** and struggle.

"If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you." **John 15:18** (16:2-3; Mt. 5:10-12; 10:34-39)

"Don't love the world's ways. Don't love the world's goods. Love of the world squeezes out love for the Father." **1 John 2:15** Message (James 4:4)

"Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold, but let God re-mold your minds from within, so that you may prove in practice that the plan of God for you is good, meets all his demands and moves towards the goal of true maturity." **Romans 12:2** JBP

2. The moment you opened your life to Jesus, he came in and made you a **CITIZEN** of a different world... which means you are no longer of this world! That is part of the truest thing about you!

"you are not of the world" **John 15:19**

"... many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ" **Philippians 3:18-20**

We represent another country...

A whole new culture...

A whole new value system...

A whole new checking account...

A whole new savings account...

3. The reason you are not of this world is because Jesus **CHOSE** you out of it! You are chosen, valued, prized, adopted... His! This is part of the truest thing about you.

"I chose you out of the world" **John 15:19**

"God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." **Romans 5:8**

"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last" **John 15:16** (Eph. 2:10)