

## POSITIONAL TRUTH

**Positional truth (PT) is a doctrinal term coined by R.B.Thieme Jr. to describe the transfer of the unbeliever's position in Adam (AOS) to the believer's position in Jesus Christ by means of grace salvation (positional sanctification).**

“For in Adam (en+loc of unbeliever's position) all die so also in Christ (en+loc of believer's position) all shall be made alive.” (1 Cor.15:22)

PT is based on the Greek phrase, “in or with Christ.” This phrase is used 164 times in the NT by Paul to teach the Church Age (CA) doctrine of positional sanctification.

“To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who have been sanctified (hagiazō / perf.p.ptc) in Christ Jesus (positional truth), saints (hagios) by calling, with all who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours.

<b>This lesson will study SIX aspects of the CA doctrines of Positional Truth.</b>
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### **1. Personal faith in the gospel of Jesus Christ transfers the unbeliever from a position in Adam to a new position in the Jesus Christ (1 Cor.15:1-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9).**

“Therefore, if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away (**13** judicial charges of AOS); behold, the new things have come (**37** things of grace salvation).” (2 Cor.5:17) (**50** things of grace salvation)

**Positional truth:** “Even when we were dead in our transgression, **made us alive together with Christ** (by grace you have been saved) and **raised us up with Him**, and **seated us with Him in heavenly places, in Christ Jesus.**” (Eph.2:5-6)

Positional truth provides at least 50 things in grace salvation that every church age believer receives at salvation and can never lose in time or eternity.

- 13 judicial charges of AOS removed
- 9 communion factors of blood of Christ
- 8 works of Holy Spirit at salvation
- 20 status privileges of every CA believer

### **2. The mechanics of Positional Truth, i.e. placement in Christ is the baptism of the Holy Spirit**

“For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.” (1 Cor.12:13).

“For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.” (Gal.3:27) This is 1 of the 8 works of the Holy Spirit in grace salvation (Gal.3:2, 27-28).

Thieme illustrated this principle by drawing an upward line from the cross to the top circle of union with Christ and called it Current Positional Truth (CPT).

**3. Current positional truth (CPT) guarantees eternal redemption to every church age believer in time and eternity (1 Cor.1:30; 1 John 5:11-13).**

“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace.” (Eph.1:7; 2:5, 8-9)

“There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.” (Rom.8:1) This verse declares that no judgment in time or eternity is greater than the union with Jesus Christ (current positional truth) – “Nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is the Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Rom.8:35-39).

**Positional truth reassures every Church Age believer that NO situation in life is greater than his position in Jesus Christ.**

**4. Experiential positional truth (EPT) identifies every CA believer with the ministry of the indwelling Holy Spirit.**

The indwelling Holy Spirit is 1 of the 8 works of the Holy Spirit at the moment of grace salvation (1 Cor.6:19-20). “This is the only thing I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?” (Gal.3:2)

Thieme illustrated EPT by drawing a line from the cross to the bottom circle of indwelling Holy Spirit.

**5. Positional truth belongs to every Church Age (CA) believer whether carnal or spiritual because it is based on God’s grace.**

Therefore the believer cannot improve or cancel or destroy his position in Christ (Eph.2:1-10; 2 Cor.5:17).

Retroactive Positional Truth (RAPT) identifies every Church Age believer with the death of Jesus Christ on the cross (Rom.6:3-4, 10-11; Col.2:12). “For you have died (RAPT) and your life is hidden with Christ in God Current Positional Truth (CPT).” (Col.3:3) (John 10:28-30)

“I have been crucified with Christ (RAPT); and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, Experiential Positional Truth (EPT), who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.” (Gal.2:20)

**6. Positional truth is part of the mystery doctrines of the Church Age (Eph.1:9-14; 3:1-11).**

This means it was veiled under the Old Covenant and is an important New Covenant doctrine of the Church Age. (2 Cor.10:7).

“That by revelation there was made known to me **the mystery**, as I wrote before in brief. And by referring to this, when you read you can understand my **insight into the mystery of Christ**, which in other generations as not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit; to be specific, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise **in Christ Jesus** through the gospel.” (Eph.3:3-6)