

Finding Acceptance with God the Father

Romans 5:1-2

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

“We are all desperately insecure and looking for acceptance.”

Chip Ingram

“Upside Down World”

Definition of “Acceptance”

- . You must agree with me for me to feel accepted.
- . You must welcome my attitude, my choices or my beliefs as equally true.

OR -

I feel accepted when I measure up.

Biblical Definition of	“Acceptance”
. In Christ by His grace, God sees me as forgiven, fully and for all eternity, loved and valued. To delight in us; to be pleased.	covered in the righteousness of Christ and fully and for all eternity loved and valued.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, My rock and my redeemer. Ps. 19:14

When you receive God’s grace through Jesus Christ you receive...

1. Peace with God the Father

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Rom. 5:1

- . Not a feeling – “peaceful”
- . Not circumstantial – “peaceful place”
- . But permanent and irrevocable reconciliation

... making peace by the blood of His cross. Col 1:20b

Our Sin Causes

- . Alienation from God - Col. 1:21
- . Judgment from God - Rom. 6:23a
- . Wrath from God - Jn. 3:36;
Rom. 1:18
- . Accountability from God
- . Separation from God - Rom. 3:23
- . Inability to “please” God -
Rom. 8:7
- . Enemies of God - Rom. 5:10

... into this grace in which we stand and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

(2)

Peace with God produces the peace of God

How? – We stand in this grace! – Jude 24

To Him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of His glory with great joy. Jude 24

Though far from God, because of His grace...

- we stand with Him!
- we stand before Him!

- we stand for Him!
- we stand forgiven by Him!

“Grace brings confidence
to the soul.”

Max Lucado

2. Position as a child of God the Father

But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name...

Jn. 1:12

“To receive”

- . To take hold of
- . To obtain
- . To grasp

He gave the right to become children of God.

Jn. 1:12

“The Authority”

“The Ability”

“The Power”

... for in Christ Jesus, you are all sons of God, through faith.

Gal. 3:26

3. Privilege to come to God the Father

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace ...

Heb. 4:16

“Acceptance” - come over any time.

- Feel part of the family

For through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. Eph. 2:18

In whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in Him.

Eph. 3:12

We have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus.

Heb. 10:19

... that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need .

Heb. 4:16b

... your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.

Matt. 6:32

“Your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.”

Matt. 6:18

... how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him.

Matt. 7:11

- . He is not frustrated with my requests.
- . He is not impatient with my coming to Him again.
- . He is not too busy or distracted.
- . He is not waiting for me to be “good” enough.

#1 common thread of Atheists –
A bad relationship with their dads.

“LAW” creep – seen most often in our prayer life – feel we have to earn answers to our prayers.

4. Place of blessing and honor from God the Father

Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

Matt. 10:31

“sparrows” – little birds

- in marketplace - of least consequence (2 = 1 penny)
- temple – smallest sacrifice

Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Matt. 6:26

Then the King will say to those on His right, “Come, you who are blessed by my Father.”

Matt. 25:34

... who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

Eph. 1:3

... inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

Matt. 25:34b

Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Lk. 12:32

If anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.

Jn. 12:26

- Not that we have to earn His honor.
- It is a gift granted to Christ- followers who humbly follow and serve Jesus.
- There is no greater honor than to be honored by God the Father.
- He exalted His Son to His right hand. (Phil. 2:10)

- He exalts the humble servant of Jesus to glory.

5. Perfect love from God the Father

... whoever keeps His Word, in Him truly the love of God is perfected.
By this we know we are in Him.

1 Jn. 2:5

... for the Father Himself loves you because you have loved Me and have
believed that I came from God. Jn. 16:27

The Father Himself loves you!