

SPIRITUAL GROWTH – ACCEPTANCE



PART 2: KNOW THAT YOU ARE ACCEPTED BY GOD FOREVER BECAUSE YOU HAVE BELIEVED IN JESUS CHRIST, AND YOU ARE NOW THE RECIPIENT OF THE RICHES OF HIS GRACE IN JESUS CHRIST

2 Key Questions:

Does God fully accept me?
On what basis does He fully accept me?

2 Key Distinctions:

Being “In Adam” or “In Christ”. All unbelievers have their identity “in Adam”. All believers have their identity “in Christ”.

2 aspects of my daily relationship:

Am in Fellowship or out of Fellowship? Because I am in Christ, I am always in the family. The question now is, am I in fellowship (living by faith)?

God accepts me totally because I have believed in Christ. God now sees me as being IN CHRIST. He does not make me change to be accepted. He accepts me when I believe in Christ. Now that I know I am accepted and loved, now I can trust God for changing me in my daily life and helping me with my insecurities, doubts, and fears. God accepts me AND changes me (grows me) for His purposes and plans. My level of acceptance with God is the same level of acceptance that Jesus Christ has with God. There is nothing that can be added to that. God wants you to KNOW and BELIEVE this.

GRACE AND ACCEPTANCE

Ephesians 1:6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. (when we believe in Christ we are immediately and forever accepted)

Colossians 1:20 – and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.

Romans 5:1 – Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation... 2 Cor 5:17a

GRACE AND GROWTH:

Importance of Reading the Bible – 1 Peter 2:2 – “as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, God’s word renews your mind and helps you get out of conformity to the world’s way of thinking. You are accepted, but now you need to grow and mature”.

Living by faith in your Identity with Christ – “I have been crucified with Christ; 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, who loved me and gave Himself for me”. Galatians 2:20

