

# Acceptance

## Chapter 19B

### 19.3 The Attitude of Acceptance

PS 23:1 "The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.

PS 23:2 "He makes me lie down in green pastures,  
He leads me beside quiet waters,

PS 23:3 He restores my soul.  
He guides me in paths of righteousness  
for His name's sake."

PS 23:4 "Even though I walk  
through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil,  
'for You are with me;  
Your rod and Your staff,  
they comfort me."

PS 23:5 "You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies.  
You anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows."

PS 23:6 "Surely goodness and love will follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD  
forever."

To make this scripture work requires FAITH. Another scripture He is reminding me of is:

MK 8:34 "Then He called the crowd to Him along with His disciples and said: "If anyone would come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. [35] For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for Me and for the gospel will save it. [36] What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? [37] Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? [38] If anyone is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when He comes in His Father's glory with the holy angels."

This one is applying faith, by accepting His will in our life. If you win the situation, then great, but if you do not and die, then that is greater. Because I get to be with God. I am really looking forward to the day that my work on this evil world is done, and I get to go and be with my God--my Creator.

He has reminded me this last week of a very important attitude that really changed my life with God and that is the attitude of Acceptance. To accept God's will in my life. To life or to die and go home. No matter, I accept His will. You cannot "Be still and know I am God" if you do not have the attitude of acceptance in your heart. That acceptance needs to be the desire of your heart, which is to want and to accept God's will for you, the destiny that He has pre-ordained before you were born.

The Holy Spirit lead me to the bible in Jeremiah

JER 1:1 "The words of Jeremiah son of Hilkiyah, one of the priests at Anathoth in the territory of Benjamin. [2] The word of the LORD came to him in the thirteenth year of the reign of Josiah son of Amon king of Judah, [3] and through the reign of Jehoiakim son of Josiah king of Judah, down to the fifth month of the eleventh year of Zedekiah son of Josiah king of Judah, when the people of Jerusalem went into exile."

JER 1:4" The word of the LORD came to me, saying,

JER 1:5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.""

JER 1:6 "Ah, Sovereign LORD," I said, "I do not know how to speak; I am only a child."

JER 1:7 "But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a child.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. [8] Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you," declares the LORD."

JER 1:9 "Then the LORD reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, "Now, I have put my words in your mouth. [10] See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.""

What got me most--at that time--was that before I was born He knew me, before I was born He set me apart. He has a perfect will for us but that requires that we totally **accept** His will for us that we decide to change our attitude to want to accept His will, but we still have a free will, and so for that He has a plan "B" which is His acceptable will for us. This one of course makes Him work harder to get us to where He needs us.

I do not know if I have ever really been depressed since I have been Christian, but I know that I have been thrown into "The Pit" by God. In the pit, it is black, lonely from God, it is silent and I feel dead inside—there is no spiritual connection to anything, God or evil. There were moments when God has separated me from everything spiritually. I was taking Him for granted, or I was just not willing to listen to God, or , or , or .

Nothing can touch you in “The Pit”, not the devil, and not the small still voice of God. It is just like what Elijah went through:

1KI 19:7 “The angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you." [8] So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God. [9] There he went into a cave and spent the night. (The pit)

And the word of the LORD came to him: "What are you doing here, Elijah?"”

(The word of the Lord is sharper than a 2 edged sword, able to penetrate into the deepest part of our heart--even in "The Pit".)

1KI 19:10 “He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.””

1KI 19:11 “The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.””

(Obedience through faith- is required to get out of "The Pit")

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. [12] After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper (small still voice). [13] When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"”

(If the word of God could talk to Elijah, why did he have to leave "The Pit" to receive more from the Lord? Are they different?)

1KI 19:14 “He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down

your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.””

At this point Elijah accepted the Lord's will for him and he accepted that God would be with him as in Psalm 23 then Elijah's ministry took off. After this God preformed many more miracles, healing, raise the dead, more fire from heaven, crossing the huge Jordan River on dry land. He no longer feared dying that Jezebel threatened. He trusted the Lord because He accepted the Lord's will for his life, whether it be life or death.

Once he obeyed the word of the Lord by going out of "The Pit" he became righteous, and in his righteousness, God was able to be with him in person, as shown by the "Small still voice".

I have experienced that several times. God has always be faithful to bring me out of "The Pit" and then His small still voice, was able to touch me and lift me up like He promises so many times in the bible.

Once I was obedient to Him, He gave me this verse that I hold dearly to my heart all of these many years.

REV 3:7 "To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:

These are the words of Him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What He opens no one can shut, and what He shuts no one can open. [8] I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept My word and have not denied My name. [9] I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be Jews though they are not, but are liars--I will make them come and fall down at your feet and acknowledge that I have loved you. [10] Since you have kept My command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth.”

REV 3:11 “I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. [12] Him who overcomes I will make a pillar in the temple of My God. Never again will he leave it. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from My God; and I will also write on him My new name. [13] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.””

Since I did not deny His name and endured patiently, He will give me my crown of life. He will show the world that He loves me. Oh that touched me heart and still does. After I read this and accepted His will for me, I was immediately popped out of "The Pit"

into a new wonderful life. I have had to go into that Pit a few times--I am stubborn--but thank God in His mercy and grace that He brought me out of it, by His Word. The Word can touch you in "The Pit" but not His spirit--The Small Still Voice.

The formula is:

His Word + Faith (obedience) = release from Pit.

This is sincere faith, and receiving the True Word of the Lord. Not a hopeful word, not a desired word, not the any word from others, definitely not a sympathetic word, even if they the word comes from prophets or apostles. The True Word from the Lord comes directly to you; one that your spirit in your heart witnesses to you and confirms to you that it is the True Word that you have been waiting for. Then like Elijah, you accept that word, obey that word, you decide to put your faith in that word, and they trust God to fulfill that word in you. That is the key that will open "The Pit" and set you free.

Once you have accepted this, then you are ready to listen to His small still voice, and He will explain many things and He will anoint you and will guide you to what His will is for you. John 14, 15 and 16 will come to life for you.

## 19.4 Accepting God's Will

One example of God's will, is to accept the gift of salvation. Since it is the most important and commonly understood gift, I thought that would be good to use to understand acceptance.

EPH 2:1 "As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, [2] in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. [3] All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. [4] But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, [5] made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved. [6] And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, [7] in order that in the coming ages He might show the incomparable riches of His grace, expressed in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus. [8] For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, **it is the gift of God**-- [9] not by works, so that no one can boast. [10] For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

You must freely accept, a gift cannot be forced on you; likewise, the gift cannot be taken, stolen, or worked for. It is a gift. But, you must act, you must receive, and you

must be willing to live as a child of God. You must be willing to remove yourself from living in the kingdom of satan and to live only in the Kingdom of God.

Along with the acceptance of God's most precious gift, you are willing to accept God's destiny for you. You are willing to accept God's will in your life. If that means that if you live a life of luxury because of God's mercy, grace and favor, then that is great, but if that means that you have to work hard, and end up suffering for Jesus' name sake, then that is great too.

Accepting God's wonderful gift, is accepting yourself as an new creature now created in God's will, willing to accept His decisions in and for your life. This is accepting repentance: To change for the ways of the world to the ways of God and the Kingdom of God.

You will find that acceptance is the hardest things to do. To receive His gift, you must accept the conditions of receive that gift, or He can take away what He gives. It is His gift and it is given under conditional terms. Break those terms, and He will remove this gift of eternal life with Him.

To accept what God is doing in your life is to not fight Him, but to allow Him, willingly, unconditionally, change you, mold you, fill you with His Holy Spirit. That means that if He sees and evil spirit in your heart, even if you do not think it is, you have accepted His will over your life, and so you not only are willing to allow Him to remove it, but you should be seeking Him out to get rid of it.

## 19.5 Procedure/Process

How? How do we accept? We have been discussing the need to do something that you "Have to do" or "you must do". But how?

MK 11:22 "**Have faith in God**," Jesus answered. [23] "I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. [24] Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. [25] And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins. "

1TH 5:12 "Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. [13] Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. **Live in peace with each other**. [14] And we urge you, brothers, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone. [15] Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else."

1TH 5:16 **“Be joyful always;** [17] pray continually; [18] give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.”

1TH 5:19 **“Do not put out the Spirit's fire;** [20] **do not treat prophecies with contempt.** [21] **Test everything. Hold on to the good.** [22] Avoid every kind of evil.”

**“Have faith in God”;** **“Live in peace with each other”;** **“Be joyful always”;** **“Do not “put out the Spirit's fire”;** **“do not treat prophecies with contempt”;** **“Test everything”;** **“Hold on to the good.”**  
These are all statements of something God wants us to do. Ok with me, but how? If you believe Galatians 6 that says that the spirits give feelings, like joy, then again I ask how? Can I cause that feeling when He says:

**“Be joyful always;** [17] pray continually; [18] give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.”

So I wanted to love God and He says that if you love Me you will obey my commands, (John 14, 15, and 16), and so I ask Him how? How can I make myself be joyful when all joy comes from the Holy Spirit? The bible says that we are to do a lot of things, like love your neighbor. How? I hate my neighbor, he steals all of my things, eats all of my food, he is mean and always angry. How do I love this mean old man? But the bible says to and to not do it says that I do not love God. Well I love God, so I prayed and prayed and prayed as to how do I do these things He is commanding me to do. And why should I, besides God giving me that: “because told you to.” I hated it from my parents, and not God says that; He is kinder then my parents and more merciful, so I cannot believe that He will just say, “Because I told you so.”

God knows I need to know why; He knows that I cannot do something willingly, if I do not know or understand how. Just telling me to do it, just does not work. Well, God is merciful, God is full of grace, and God is very wise. So He answered my prayers and told me why, and who, on top of what to do.

So here is the way I understand it. I started to be able to understand once I learned to accept His will. How did I do that? It started with the Holy Spirit after I was born again. John 14, 15, and 16. The Holy Spirit will guide you into all truth, He will tell you everything about Jesus, and He will remind you of all that He has taught you. I prayed and prayed for the Holy Spirit to fulfill His promise. But I first had to make the decision to accept His ways of doing things. I had to make the decision to have faith in Him, I had to decide to accept Him by faith in God's word: The bible.

To accept is to decide that you want to accept, that you are willing to decide to accept what He tell you, guides you and teaches you. Then you have to decide to accept His commands and to do them.

**Note:** Reminder, what power do you really have in this world? All you have is the power over your decisions. The devil is constantly trying to sway your decision, with commercials, newspapers, magazines, everything that he can use to deceive you, and your decision. Because that the only power you really have, the power to make your own free will decision. God honors that decision. Whatever you decide is what He will do. If you want to believe in Him and you want to decide that you want to have faith in Him, then He will honor your decision and help build your faith in Him. But if you decide to follow the deception, then He will honor that and allow the devil to have his way with you. It is your choice.

Everything starts with acceptance. If you accept the deception, then He will honor your decision, even if it breaks His heart to do it. If you decide to accept His word and so to follow Him, He will help you with all of His power to help you to keep your decision.

Everything starts with acceptance. To accept or reject that someone is telling you. For example, what I am writing will have no power from God if you do not accept that it is He who is guiding, and leading me to write His words for you.

Let's get back to the process of how do I do it? Back to Be joyful. When I first read this, I asked God, how do I be joyful. He said that to be joyful is an attitude. The word, "Be" is an attitude. He wants us to decide to accept His request of us wanting to be joyful. For us to change our attitude, from half empty to having a half full cup.

He said that:

1. Make the decision to obey God
2. Make the decision to accept God's request.
3. Make the decision have faith in God and His request—remembering that faith is making the decision to believe in God, to make the decision to trust God, and to make the decision to act on my belief, and my trust in God.
4. Make the decision to repent from this evil way
5. Ask God to remove this evil way, and replace it with His way.

The key is that once you accept God's way, the Holy Spirit will make it seem natural to try to fulfill what you have accepted. You will find your self to be naturally joyful. That is what happened to me.

HEB 8:10 "This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel

after that time, declares the Lord.

**I will put My laws in their minds  
and write them on their hearts.**

**I will be their God,  
and they will be My people."**

HEB 8:11 "No longer will a man teach his neighbor,



or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,'  
**because they will all know me,**  
from the least of them to the greatest.”

HEB 8:12 “For I will forgive their wickedness  
and will remember their sins no more.”

When you accept God’s way, He will fulfill this scripture, by writing His laws on your mind and on your heart. So God’s nature will be your nature, and you will find yourself naturally obeying God’s commands, because they are on your heart.

I accepted God’s request that need to be joyful. So I prayed for God to move the Holy Spirit in my heart so that I can be joyful and I did. Only when I am away from God because of some king of sin, am I not joyful.

Then I become joyful again, once I repent from my sin and ask His forgiveness.

Acceptance is the way to release God’s love, mercy and grace in to you life.

God says to love your enemy. Once you accept that idea to love your enemy and you pray for God to help you to obey His command, then the Holy Spirit will start showing you how and why to love your enemy; anyway that is how He did it for me. When you accept God’s will, you will all of a sudden mind yourself naturally doing His commands. Shortly later, He started explaining as to why it is necessary to obey His commands.

Now that I know why and how, it comes easier to follow His commands.

## **19.6 Conclusion**

So acceptance is to accept that God’s knows what is happening and because you accept His will, you do not fight Him over things, which sympathy would drive you crazy with others feelings. We must accept God’s will by trusting Him to do what is right and good for all, no matter what sympathy wants to make us feel. Thus, we accept being compassionate like God is and we do not accept being sympathetic; in fact we reject being sympathetic. This is resisting the devil and he will flee you. But being sympathetic is accepting the evil feelings and they will take control of you.

In fact, acceptance of the ways of the world opens our windows to evil spirits and rejection keeps them closed.

But acceptance of God’s ways opens the door to the Holy Spirit and the peace of God. I love nothing more then living in the peace of God. To me that is having heaving here on earth.

MK 11:22 "Have faith in God," Jesus answered. [23] "I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. [24] Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, **believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.** [25] And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins. "

What does this mean, "believe that you have received it, and it will be your." Is it mind over matter, is it power of your mind to believe that makes it happened? No. In order for this to happen is to be one with God, John 14, 15 and 16. This belief is only works when you are willing to accept God's will in your life. He knows what you need, He knows your heart, and if you have a pure heart and your desire is that of God's, then you have accepted His will, which then releases Him to fulfill your hearts desire, which is in your prayer because you have prayed His desire.

As you can now see, that acceptance is a key component to faith. How can you say you have faith, if you are fighting God, if you are not accepting that God is doing in your life. If you are not accepting God's will, then you are not having faith in God. To have faith in God is to accept what He does as His answer to your prayers. If you pray for something and then you do not accept God's answer, then you are not acting on your faith in Him.

So another key to life in the Kingdom of God is to accept God's way of doing things, that leads to trusting God and that He knows what is best and to follow Him.

Acceptance Pt. 2