

Series: Romans VIII: Acceptance

Message: I Can Now Experience Divine Acceptance: Part Three

Scripture: Romans 8:14-17 (NASB)

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Three Realities Regarding Acceptance

- 1) We all crave acceptance and will pay an incredibly high price to get it.
- 2) There exists the reality of what's called "the power of greater love."
- 3) We will naturally assume we are not accepted until there's overwhelming evidence to the contrary.

Romans 8

- 1) Acceptance vs 1-17
- 2) Suffering vs 18-27
- 3) Assurance vs 28-30
- 4) Security vs 31-39

Week 1 - The Testimony of God's Word vs 1-4
(God says So)

Week 2 - The Evidence of a Changed Life vs 5-13
(Our Lives Say So)

This Week

Week 3 - The Witness of God's Spirit vs 14-17
(The Spirit Says So)

Romans 8:14-17

¹⁴For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

¹⁵For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"

¹⁶The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God,

¹⁷and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.

1 John 3:24b

²⁴... We know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

1. The Spirit's Control vs 14-15

Romans 8:14

¹⁴For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

Romans 8:15

¹⁵ For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"

2. The Spirit's Witness vs 16-17

Romans 8:16-17

¹⁶ *The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God,*

¹⁷ *and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.*

Galatians 4:6

⁶ *Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"*

Richard Sibbs' quote

"...Sometimes our spirits cannot stand under trial. Therefore, sometimes the immediate testimony of the Holy Spirit is necessary. It comes in saying, 'I am your salvation' and our hearts are stirred up and comforted with joy inexpressible. This joy has degrees. Sometimes it is so strong & clear we question nothing. Other times doubts come back fairly soon. The Spirit does not always witness unto us by force of argument from our sanctification, but directly by way of presence – as the sight of a friend's presence comforts without his speaking at all."

Romans 8:17

¹⁷ *and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.*

1 Peter 1:6-7

⁶ *In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials,*

⁷ *so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;*