

Chapter from *Enduring Grace* (book) by Margaret D. Mitchell

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**“True Justice or Self-Justification”**

*“There is nothing God hates more than condemning the one who is innocent and acquitting the one who is guilty.” Proverbs 17:15 TPT*

*“Many seek an audience with a ruler, but it is from the LORD that one gets justice.”*  
Proverbs 29:26 NIV

*“How can they render justice if they don’t believe in the God of justice?”* 1 Corinthians 6:6  
MSG

*“I lead you into the ways of righteousness to discover the paths of true justice.”* Proverbs  
8:20 TPT

*“He guards the paths of justice; And He preserves the way of His saints (believers).”*  
Proverbs 2:8 AMP

God is just, and He hates injustice. He loves you and desires His best life for you on earth as it is in Heaven. Our alignment with His truth is how He makes room for His true justice in our lives, including His abundant recompense thereof. If you feel stuck in a mode of injustice, or if you’re just not seeing enough of God’s abundant inheritance in your life, God may be trying to get your attention to turn to Him for liberty from this internal (and external) bondage. If you take courage and ask The Lord for His truth at the root of the matter, He will reveal it to you for your own benefit and beyond (Ps 25:5).

*“Living your life seeking what is good for others brings untold favor, but those who wish evil for others will find it coming back on them.”* Proverbs 11:27 TPT

*“No matter who you are, before you judge the wickedness of others, you had better remember this: you are also without excuse, for you too are guilty of the same kind of things! When you judge others, and then do the same things they do, you condemn yourself. We know*

*that God's judgment falls upon those who practice these things. God is always right, because he has all the facts. And no matter who you think you are, when you judge others who do these things and then do the same things yourself, what makes you think that you will escape God's judgment?" Romans 2:1-3 TPT*

*"It is the most terrifying thing of all to come under the judgment of the Living God!"*

Hebrews 10:31 TPT

*"You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you treat them with contempt? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat." Romans 14:10 NIV*

Rest assured, God's justice includes the favorable victory of vindication for His righteous, obedient people and the unfavorable judgment of punishment for those who operate in the sin of wrongly judging others. We get to choose, by our obedience, which side of God's judgment we will be on. To be clear, no one restores, shields, and avenges like God and His angel army (Job 42:10, Ps 18:35, He 10:30, Ro 12:19, 2 Th 1:6, Ex 23:22, 2 Cor 10:6).

## **Truly Justified in Christ**

*"He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification."*

Romans 4:25 NIV

*"For with the heart a person believes [in Christ as Savior] resulting in his justification [that is, being made righteous—being freed of the guilt of sin and made acceptable to God]; and with the mouth he acknowledges and confesses [his faith openly], resulting in and confirming [his] salvation." Romans 10:10 AMP*

*"THEREFORE, SINCE we are justified (acquitted, declared righteous, and given a right standing with God) through faith, let us [grasp the fact that we] have [the peace of reconciliation to hold and to enjoy] peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One)." Romans 5:1 AMPC*

*"You see that a man (believer) is justified by works and not by faith alone [that is, by acts of obedience a born-again believer reveals his faith]." James 2:24 AMP*

In the resurrected life of Christ, we truly find our purposed justification. Justification in Christ, according to *Vine's*, is "the legal and formal acquittal from guilt by God as Judge." It goes on to say that we are in a "constant process of justification." God's righteousness is His

standard for favorable or unfavorable justice. It is our choice to believe God at His Word and receive His powerful truth and freedom of a guilt-free verdict.

*“Now faith is the assurance (title deed, confirmation) of things hoped for (divinely guaranteed), and the evidence of things not seen [the conviction of their reality—faith comprehends as fact what cannot be experienced by the physical senses].” Hebrews 11:1 AMP*

Faith in Christ is our true title deed of inheritance. He requires no one’s approval, only faith by grace to believe. His Word assures us we are legally approved (justified) to receive His favorable justice as daughters and sons of Christ by grace through faith *in* Christ and in obedience *to* Christ: According to *HELPS Word-Studies*, we are “made righteous/justified by The Lord” and we are “justified (made right, righteous)” by His “grace each time we receive (obey) faith, i.e., ‘God’s inwrought persuasion’).”

### **Priority of True Justice**

*“. . . God will judge both the righteous and the wicked, for there is a time [appointed] for every matter and for every deed.” Ecclesiastes 3:17 AMP*

*“And we will be ready to punish every act of disobedience, once your obedience is complete.” 2 Corinthians 10:6 NIV*

God will likely deal with our hearts before our afflictors’. Since withholdings of the heart are hindrances to our vindication, God’s priority of justice is for us to first release the injustices of our hearts to Him, as He reveals them to us. Withholding our injustices from Him, until we see His true justice prevail is sin and does not work on our behalf. In fact, since the nature of sin is opposing and forsaking, withholding injustices of the heart will actually work against us and cause delay.

*“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9 NIV*

God is God, and we are not. God waits for us to return to Him and process through injustices *His* way, since He will not agree with any counterfeit thought, deed, or system. When we lay hold to belief in Him and behave in agreement with His true character, we work with His

mercy and grace to receive His just inheritance; therefore, God's due process begins with relinquishing our will and ways of false justice (our false entitlements) to Him in true confession.

*"In fact, under the Law almost everything is cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness [neither release from sin and its guilt, nor cancellation of the merited punishment]." Hebrews 9:22 AMP*

Since forgiveness is paramount in God's courtroom, unforgiveness must also be confessed. God's Word is clear that if we desire to be forgiven by Him, we must first forgive others for their wrongs (Matt 6:12). Remember, He died for us while we were still sinners (Ro 5:8). Our obedience to The Lord's priority of spiritual laws largely determines our course and quality of life. It especially factors into the order, timing, and level of our blessings, including His favorable justice.

### **What is Self-Justification?**

*Do you indeed speak righteousness, O gods (heavenly beings)? Do you judge fairly, O sons of men? Psalm 58:1 AMP*

*"Commit everything you do to the LORD. Trust him, and he will help you. He will make your innocence radiate like the dawn, and the justice of your cause will shine like the noonday sun." Psalm 37:5–6 NLT*

Self-justification is a sinful and, therefore, false system of justice. The revelation Holy Spirit gave to me is that self-justification is *our* justification of a false entitlement. It's what we erroneously think we are entitled to get or entitled to do based on our own thoughts, feelings, or circumstances—above God's will and ways for us. Self-justification is a counterfeit system that works against the true title deed inheritance Christ died to give us, because our faith is misplaced in ourselves above God.

*"The heart is deceitful above all things and it is extremely sick; Who can understand it fully and know its secret motives? I, the Lord, search and examine the mind, I test the heart, To give to each man according to his ways, according to the results of his deeds." Jeremiah 17:9–10 AMP*

*Everyone who is arrogant in heart is an abomination to the LORD; be assured, he will not go unpunished.” Proverbs 16:5 ESV*

Self-justification is the prideful deception of self-reliance. It is selfish disobedience that does not trust, abide in, remain in, obey, or honor God or His higher thoughts or ways above all else, including ourselves. Self-justification is a form of self-righteousness and idolatry, which are abominations in the face of God. Self-justification can prevent us from seeing God’s true justice come to pass in our circumstances.

*“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for instruction, for conviction, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, fully equipped for every good work.” 2 Timothy 3:16–17 BSB*

*“And let endurance have its perfect result and do a thorough work, so that you may be perfect and completely developed [in your faith], lacking in nothing.” James 1:4 AMP*

The battle between Saul and David is an illustration of our own John 10:10 struggles with good and evil, especially with self-justification versus God-dependence. Saul, feeling rejected and left behind, represents the evil of self-reliance, giving way to self-destruction. David, having overcome rejection, by remaining in The Lord, represents the good of trusting God in patient endurance; thus receiving the crown of honor and abundant life (Ps 40:8).

## **Causes**

*“. . . No man who believes in Him [who adheres to, relies on, and trusts in Him] will [ever] be put to shame or be disappointed.” Romans 10:11 AMPC*

*“. . . the flesh has no claims on us at all, and we have no further obligation to live in obedience to it. For when you live controlled by the flesh, you are about to die . . .” Romans 8:12-13 TPT*

Self-justification happens when our hearts are not submitted to God (in part or in full) as our Righteous Ruler. When we resort to ourselves or someone or something else as ruler over our lives above God, it will always lead to disappointment; therefore, unbelief (the disobedience of distrust and unfaithfulness toward God) can be found at the foundation of self-justification’s destructive system of self-reliance. Sometimes it’s ignorance. Sometimes it’s deliberately

willful—us wanting our way above God’s. But the bottom line is that there is simply no hope in the flesh, only life in Christ (Ro 8:7-9).

Self-justification can take hold anytime in life, especially at an early age, before we learn how to properly process life’s troubles God’s way: through prayer, believing (trusting) Him at His Word, obeying Him, and praising Him while we wait patiently for His justice to prevail. Because self-justification’s deceptive and prideful nature holds to the lie that we know better than God, we need Holy Spirit to shine His light on the matter, especially if we’ve been doing it for years.

## **Effects**

*“For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, it is much more [certain], now that we are reconciled, that we shall be saved (daily delivered from sin’s dominion) through His [resurrection] life.” Romans 5:10 AMPC*

Self-justification robs the abundance of life Jesus died to give us. It innately hinders us from consistently following Christ and experiencing His power in our daily lives. This includes His manifest true justice and honor. In this way, self-justification perpetuates the impoverished soul, breeds hopelessness and frustration, and leads to burn-out.

By default, self-justification “pushes” God off the throne as we arrogantly try to make justice happen our way; therefore, self-justification is tied to judgment over God’s mercy and grace. For this reason, self-justification bears fruit of what feels like more injustice and unfairness to a person blinded by it, due to the guilt of this unconfessed sin.

Since self-justification is easily provoked to prideful stubbornness, it can even open the door to Leviathan (an evil principality of pride), antichrist (an evil spirit of lawlessness and anarchy), and many other false spirits of affliction that work against God’s holy covenants and laws.

## **Symptoms**

Some symptoms of self-justification are:

- Feeling hopeless, that you cannot count on God.

- Holding onto bitterness and offenses due to entitlement (often based on a previous hurt we believe we've experienced), instead of choosing to forgive others by faith in the truth of God's redemption.
- Expecting repayment from others we think someone owes us, instead of looking to God for recompense.
- Making unholy vows, such as our own version of vengeance; and acting out of it in word and deed.
- Not extending the love of Christ to others (because we deem them unworthy or offensive in some way), instead of asking God to help us see them and love them as He does.

### **Job – Going Deeper**

*"What strength do I have, that I should still hope? What prospects, that I should be patient?" Job 6:11 NIV*

*"Will you really annul My judgment and set it aside as void? Will you condemn Me [your God] that you may [appear to] be righteous and justified?" Job 40:8 AMP*

Toward the end of a ten-year, ten-month season of tribulation I walked through with The Lord, Holy Spirit instructed me to read "The Book of Job." As I prayed and studied it line by line, I saw nothing particularly illuminating until I arrived at Job 40:8. Here Holy Spirit gave me the profound revelation that Job knew self-justification before his deliverance.

This proved convicting.

According to Job 40:8, to justify oneself is to condemn God. Yet there is no condemnation in Christ (Ro 8:1). Like me, Job didn't understand why God would allow him to go through a season of suffering, even as God led him deeper to purge out the self-justification in him. Job was blind to it. He waffled in his trust of God's way as he sought God. At times, Job gripped onto his own understanding. In his pit of despair, Job spoke as an unrighteous ruler against God's truth, which God called him on.

We know Job's outcome: God showed up and reprimanded Job and his frenemies. Job repented and prayed for his frenemies (Jo 42:6, 8). Job was restored double only *after* he prayed for his frenemies (Jo 42:10). This turning point for all of them to come into more of God's truth was God's good plan all along!

Taking a closer look at Job's frenemies—the debaters who at times sounded more like haters—we see they did more advising Job than praying for him. They also leaned on their own

limited understanding, instead of taking courage in the storm to trust God for His new work of deep transformation that only *He* could do in Job . . . and in them! Where was *their* tabernacle of faith that God would trump judgment with mercy in the end?

Did Job's bossy frenemies even pray God's will for him? Or did they just add insult to injury? Were they secretly jealous of Job, glad he was finally suffering, gloating over his misery, thinking they had an upper hand in his weakness? Did they realize the enemy was using their mouths to afflict themselves as they afflicted Job?

Job's frenemies were guilty of the sin of self-justification too: exalting their viewpoints and words above God's truth, oblivious to their own ignorant sins of prideful false accusation based on their own self-reliant observations.

Job's frenemies were not very good at humbling themselves or waiting on God. They made Job's life worse when he was down. Although Job was tested more, his frenemies were tested too! In the end, God did a work in all of them to break their pride and set them all straight!

God supernaturally showed up after nine months of Job's suffering. He lifted Job's head, and showed him that He was bigger, more gracious, and more loving than Job's ways in every way! God, rich in mercy and full of grace, favored Job all along for victory. God was working the whole time to make more room for Himself in Job's heart and to produce more fruit for Job and through Job . . . despite the frenemies in his face.

*"The Lord blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the former part . . . "* Job 42:12  
NIV

In His loving-kindness and truth, God prepared a seat of honor for Job at His feast table in front of his frenemies. What a witness and a wonder to all, including his family and the wretched community at large who had kicked Job when he was down. Those who knew Job before his trouble came to comfort him and bring gifts of silver and gold (Jo 42:11). This was humbling for everyone!

God can make our prideful attitudes resoundingly clear to us and humble us. He can strategically allow people into our lives, like Job's frenemies, to aggravate our false attitude of injustice for the purpose of pressing the very limitation of self-justification out of us into His truth. All for His glory!

### **Affirming Scriptures**

*"I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down His [own] life for the sheep."*

John 10:11 AMP

*". . . He was wounded for our transgressions, He was crushed for our wickedness [our sin, our injustice, our wrongdoing]; The punishment [required] for our well-being fell on Him, And by His stripes (wounds) we are healed."* Isaiah 53:5 AMP

*"I have come to give you everything in abundance, more than you expect—life in its fullness until you overflow!"* John 10:10 TPT

*"I have riches and honor, as well as enduring wealth and justice."* Proverbs 8:18 NLT

*"And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"* Luke 18:7–8 ESV

*". . . He treasures those whose ways are pure."* Proverbs 11:20 TPT

*"Those who love me gain great wealth and a glorious inheritance, and I will fill their lives with treasures."* Proverbs 8:21 TPT

*"And I will betroth you (Israel) to Me forever; Yes, I will betroth you to Me in righteousness and in justice, In lovingkindness and loyalty, and in compassion. I will betroth you to Me in stability and in faithfulness. Then you will know (recognize, appreciate) the Lord [and respond with loving faithfulness]."* Hosea 2:19–20 AMP

*"Therefore the LORD waits [expectantly] and longs to be gracious to you, And therefore He waits on high to have compassion on you. For the LORD is a God of justice; Blessed (happy, fortunate) are all those who long for Him [since He will never fail them]."* Isaiah 30:18 AMP

*"His ever-expanding, peaceful government will never end. He will rule with perfect fairness and justice from the throne of his father David. He will bring true justice and peace to all the nations of the world. This is going to happen because the Lord of heaven's armies has dedicated himself to do it!"* Isaiah 9:6–7 TLB

*"So submit to [the authority of] God. Resist the devil [stand firm against him] and he will flee from you."* James 4:7 AMP

*"Blessed [with spiritual security] is the man who believes and trusts in and relies on the Lord And whose hope and confident expectation is the Lord. For he will be [nourished] like a tree planted by the waters, That spreads out its roots by the river; And will not fear the heat when it comes; But its leaves will be green and moist. And it will not be anxious and concerned in a year of drought Nor stop bearing fruit."* Jeremiah 17:7–8 AMP

*“ . . . let justice run down like waters And righteousness like an ever-flowing stream [flowing abundantly].” Amos 5:24 AMP*

*“Let me be clear, the Anointed One has set us free—not partially, but completely and wonderfully free. We must always cherish this truth and stubbornly refuse to go back into the bondage of our past.” Galatians 5:1 TPT*

*“ . . . I say to you who hear [Me and pay attention to My words]: Love [that is, unselfishly seek the best or higher good for] your enemies, [make it a practice to] do good to those who hate you, bless and show kindness to those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.” Luke 6:27–28 AMP*

### **Trust In God Scriptures**

*“Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave the way open for God’s wrath [and His judicial righteousness]; for it is written [in Scripture], ‘VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY,’ says the Lord.” Romans 12:19 AMP*

*“No weapon that is formed against you will succeed; And every tongue that rises against you in judgment you will condemn. This [peace, righteousness, security, and triumph over opposition] is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, And this is their vindication from Me,’ says the LORD.” Isaiah 54:17 AMP*

*“In his justice he will pay back those who persecute you.” 2 Thessalonians 1:6 NLT*

*“Therefore let us [with privilege] approach the throne of grace [that is, the throne of God’s gracious favor] with confidence and without fear, so that we may receive mercy [for our failures] and find [His amazing] grace to help in time of need [an appropriate blessing, coming just at the right moment].” Hebrews 4:16 AMP*

*“Say this: ‘God, you’re my refuge. I trust in You and I’m safe.’” Psalm 91:2 MSG*

*“In his unfailing love, my God will stand with me. He will let me look down in triumph on all my enemies.” Psalm 59:10 NLT*

*“For we know Him who said, ‘VENGEANCE IS MINE [retribution and the deliverance of justice rest with Me], I WILL REPAY [the wrongdoer].’ And again, ‘THE LORD WILL JUDGE HIS PEOPLE.’ It is a fearful and terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God [incurring His judgment and wrath].” Hebrews 10:30–31 AMP*

*“For judgment will be merciless to one who has shown no mercy; but [to the one who has shown mercy] mercy triumphs [victoriously] over judgment.” James 2:13 AMP*

*“Instead of your [former] shame you will have a double portion; And instead of humiliation your people will shout for joy over their portion. Therefore in their land they will possess double [what they had forfeited]; Everlasting joy will be theirs. For I, the Lord, love justice; I hate robbery with a burnt offering. And I will faithfully reward them, And make an everlasting covenant with them.” Isaiah 61:7–8 AMP*

## **Your Turning Point**

*“Beloved, if our heart does not convict us [of guilt], we have confidence [complete assurance and boldness] before God; and we receive from Him whatever we ask because we [carefully and consistently] keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing in His sight [habitually seeking to follow His plan for us]. This is His commandment, that we believe [with personal faith and confident trust] in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and [that we unselfishly] love and seek the best for one another, just as He commanded us. The one who habitually keeps His commandments [obeying His word and following His precepts, abides and] remains in Him, and He in him. By this we know and have the proof that He [really] abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us [as a gift].” 1 John 3:21–24 AMP*

Are you ready to give up your ways and trust God to help you? Are you ready to release every withholding of your heart, including those who have wronged you, to The One who loves you more than you can imagine? If you are a born-again believer of Christ and are ready to submit to The Lord’s righteous will to come into more of His marvelous light of truth, love, justice, liberty, and good fruit, pray this prayer . . .

## **Beautiful Prayer**

Dear Lord,

I come before You with bold confidence into Your throne room of grace, through the blood sacrament of Your Son, Jesus. With thanksgiving for Your rich mercy and for this opportunity, I present my case before You, pleading the blood of Jesus.

Honorable Father, You know and see all things—the depth of my heart, every wound, every withholding, every motive, every action, every injustice, and every party involved in my situation. I humble myself before You, and I choose to forgive [name your afflictors] for any and all hurt and harm they caused me and my loved ones.

I pray that You will lead my afflictors to repentance, and deliver them from all evil. I pray for mercy and grace for those who wronged me. I pray You will enable them to receive all the blessings You have for them, especially a closer walk with You. I release my afflictors to You, Lord, debt cancelled, previously paid by Jesus's sacrament on the cross. Thank You for taking this burden from me and for establishing Your true justice in this matter on my behalf.

I'm sorry I have grieved You and hindered Your Presence, Your Kingdom, and Your Fruit in and through my life, Lord. I confess this as sin, and I ask You to forgive me for harboring and acting out of my false legal system of self-justification in all its forms: unforgiveness, victimhood, distrust, unbelief, hopelessness, pride, idolatry, wrongful judgments and blame of others, mocking, slandering, and every other sin associated with my false system of justice.

I repent of and renounce all agreements with the enemy of my soul in this regard. With the authority Jesus died to give me, I kick the spirit of antichrist (lawlessness) and every other spirit that is not of You, including fear and pride, out of my life. I ask that You make the enemy (Satan) pay at least sevenfold for the trouble he has caused me and my loved ones. I declare vengeance is Yours! I choose to cast all my cares on You today and every day.

I lay down all my false weapons, such as fear, pride, and self-pity; and I pick up all Your righteous weapons, such as the shield of faith, as I enter into more of Your truth (Ep 6:11-18). I ask You to help me do better forward. I trust You to take this pain and all negative emotions from my heart, and to bring healing and deliverance to me and my loved ones—spirit, soul, and body. Please restore every area of hope and faith in our lives, cleansing us of all unrighteousness.

Thank You, Lord, for Your faithfulness to forgive me by Your grace. Thank You that You see these sins no more, that they are as far as the east is from the west. I choose to receive Your forgiveness by faith in Your grace and mercy and to also forgive myself, relinquishing all shame and guilt to You.

I ask You to set me on Your straight path, and fill me anew with Your Holy Spirit. Help me keep my eyes focused on You above all else and to be made strong by You.

I affirm my trust in You, Lord. I acknowledge that You are just and are my Source of all just provision through Your grace covenant of salvation. I submit to You as my True Justice over my life from this day forward. Thank You for resetting my expectations on You alone for justice, as You do not disappoint. Thank You for helping me to trust You in new ways and on new levels.

For Your glory, Lord, use what You have brought me through. Enable me to receive all that You have for me as my inheritance and nothing that's not of You. Please restore at least a double blessing to me for what I have lost or forfeited (Job 42:10), a just recompense for what

the locusts have eaten (Joel 2:25), and a seven-fold recompense for what the enemy (Satan) stole (Pr 6:31).

I thank You, Lord, for vindicating me. By Your grace, please make the latter part of my life greater than the former. Thank You, Holy Father, for enabling me to prosper as my soul prospers, according to my true identity and inheritance in You through Your Son, Jesus. Thank You for providing for my every need and for bringing Your true justice into my life by faith.

I'm grateful to You, Lord of my soul, for doing that which only You can do. Thank You for Your redemption of me. Thank You for Your liberty for me. Thank You for Your abundant life in me and through me. Thank You for Your recompense for me. Thank you for Your wisdom. Thank You for Your angels on assignment. I. Trust. You.

I love You, Lord.

In Your Mighty Son's Name, Jesus, I pray.

Amen.

### **Made Alive in Christ**

*"And you [He made alive when you] were [spiritually] dead and separated from Him because of your transgressions and sins, in which you once walked. You were following the ways of this world [influenced by this present age], in accordance with the prince of the power of the air (Satan), the spirit who is now at work in the disobedient [the unbelieving, who fight against the purposes of God]. Among these [unbelievers] we all once lived in the passions of our flesh [our behavior governed by the sinful self], indulging the desires of human nature [without the Holy Spirit] and [the impulses] of the [sinful] mind. We were, by nature, children [under the sentence] of [God's] wrath, just like the rest [of mankind]. But God, being [so very] rich in mercy, because of His great and wonderful love with which He loved us, even when we were [spiritually] dead and separated from Him because of our sins, He made us [spiritually] alive together with Christ (for by His grace—His undeserved favor and mercy--you have been saved from God's judgment). And He raised us up together with Him [when we believed], and seated us with Him in the heavenly places, [because we are] in Christ Jesus, [and He did this] so that in the ages to come He might [clearly] show the immeasurable and unsurpassed riches of His grace in [His] kindness toward us in Christ Jesus [by providing for our redemption]. For it is by grace [God's remarkable compassion and favor drawing you to Christ] that you have been saved [actually delivered from judgment and given eternal life] through faith. And this [salvation] is not of yourselves [not through your own effort], but it is the [undeserved, gracious] gift of God;*

*not as a result of [your] works [nor your attempts to keep the Law], so that no one will [be able to] boast or take credit in any way [for his salvation]. Ephesians 2:1–9 AMP*

## **Reigning with Christ**

*"Therefore if anyone is in Christ [that is, grafted in, joined to Him by faith in Him as Savior], he is a new creature [reborn and renewed by the Holy Spirit]; the old things [the previous moral and spiritual condition] have passed away. Behold, new things have come [because spiritual awakening brings a new life]." 2 Corinthians 5:17 AMP*

*"Yes, God raised Jesus to life! And since God's Spirit of Resurrection lives in you, he will also raise your dying body to life by the same Spirit that breathes life into you!" Romans 8:11 TPT*

*"We have become his poetry, a re-created people that will fulfill the destiny he has given each of us, for we are joined to Jesus, the Anointed One. Even before we were born, God planned in advance our destiny and the good works we would do to fulfill it!" Ephesians 2:10 TPT*

Holy Spirit can give us revelation of His truth and cause us to realize, deep within our soul, that: We are seated in Heavenly places by God's mercy. And we are able to experience Heaven's beautiful perfection and powerful authority on earth by His Spirit living inside of us (Eph 2:6, Rom 8:11).

*"He will reign as King of Israel forever, and his reign will have no limit." Luke 1:33 TPT*

Christ's resurrection life in us has no limit, as we reign with Him. This includes the area of His justice.

*"Through faith's power they conquered kingdoms and established true justice. Their faith fastened onto their promises and pulled them into reality . . ." Hebrews 11:33 TPT*

We can submit to our Divine Helper, Holy Spirit, believe His truth above every other voice, and beseech Him:

*"Manifest your kingdom realm, and cause your every purpose to be fulfilled on earth, just as it is fulfilled in heaven." Matthew 6:10 TPT*

Knowing we are fully accepted by The Lord, as we choose to sync with His Spirit and His ways, we will see the fruit of Godly justice, even beyond ourselves (Ro 8:10).

*"Now, because of your obedience to the truth, you have purified your very souls, and this empowers you to be full of love for your fellow believers. So express this sincere love toward one another passionately and with a pure heart." 1 Peter 1:22 TPT*

### **A Prayer for You**

*"May He grant you out of the riches of His glory, to be strengthened and spiritually energized with power through His Spirit in your inner self, [indwelling your innermost being and personality], so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through your faith. And may you, having been [deeply] rooted and [securely] grounded in love, be fully capable of comprehending with all the saints (God's people) the width and length and height and depth of His love [fully experiencing that amazing, endless love]; and [that you may come] to know [practically, through personal experience] the love of Christ which far surpasses [mere] knowledge [without experience], that you may be filled up [throughout your being] to all the fullness of God [so that you may have the richest experience of God's presence in your lives, completely filled and flooded with God Himself]. Now to Him who is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly more than all that we dare ask or think [infinitely beyond our greatest prayers, hopes, or dreams], according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations forever and ever. Amen." Ephesians 3:16–21 AMP*