

Access To The Father - Bishop Rice

Ephesians 2:11-22

Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

1. **Access** is the ability to enter or to use. It is the state or quality of being approachable. It's only used three times in the NT. It refers to coming boldly into the very presence and throne of God. It carries the idea of not accessing Him in our own right, but through the Son.
2. In this era of technology, we have passwords to access various accounts. Through these passwords we get access to those things we think we need or want. What we are trying to get is

ours, but sometimes if we can't remember the password, we can't get to what's actually ours.

3. Jesus' blood is one password to access God the Father!
4. Normally, we change passwords to make it hard to access our stuff.
5. However, God the Father doesn't change the "way" or access to Him. He made the way to come unto very presence.
6. The bible declares that we are sons and we can approach our father. We have access and we are joint heirs.
7. Like natural sons who have access to the refrigerator, we have access to Him. We should be just like greedy kids who devour those things in the refrigerator, we need to be greedy for God.
8. Jesus' name is also a password to access God the Father.
9. During the days of the monarchy, there was a position of an introducer. The only way to the monarch was through the introduction of the introducer. Well, our introducer is the Holy Ghost, through which God recognizes us and allows access to Himself.
10. Shepherds who are away from home, would create sheep pens by building walls and having one access point. He would lay in the doorway once the sheep were in. No predator could get access without going through the shepherd. Jesus says I am the door, no one has access to the Father but by me. His is the Chief Shepherd.
11. Our access to the Father cannot be taken away. We have been adopted as Sons. Sometimes we don't feel like we are "kin" to God the Father. Or we don't understand our identity in Christ. Even though it doesn't feel like it, we have COMPLETE access to God.
12. We need to appropriate that what God the Father has already done through the death of Christ and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost. He is approachable.
13. Through God our access we experience only forgives and blesses. He loves us enough to discipline us. Real love says

that "there are things that I have to correct in you." The Spirit Himself bearing witness that we are Sons.

14. Galatians 4:6; Hebrews 4:16; Romans 8:15; I John 5:15.