I AM ACCEPTED BY GOD, SIGNIFICANT TO GOD, & SECURE IN GOD

Ephesians 1:4 Long ago, even before he made the world, God chose us to be his very own through what Christ would do for us;

Things are changing at a rapid pace. Definitely too fast to keep up. I want to share 3 things that are unchangeable because they originate from the heart of our never changing God.

1. ACCEPTANCE

I am a Child of God. John 1:12-13 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

Born of the Spirit. **John 3:5-7** Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.'

I am the righteousness of God. **Romans 5:17** For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

God's Righteousness is given to us freely. We cannot earn it, nor can we lose it by sinful behavior (past, present, or future). An exchange happened when I received Jesus as my Savior. I gave Jesus my sins and He gave me His righteousness.

2 Corinthians 5:21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

I am a member of God's household. **Ephesians 2:19** Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household,

I am Christ's friend - John 15:5
I am a member of Christ's body – 1 Corinthians 12:27
I am a new creation – 2 Corinthians 5:17
I am a citizen of Heaven - Philippians 3:20
I am chosen of God - Colossians 2:12

I am transferred into His Son's Kingdom. **Colossians 3:13-14** For he has rescued us out of the darkness and gloom of Satan's kingdom and brought us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, ¹⁴ bought our freedom with his blood and forgave us all our sins.

2. SIGNIFICANCE

Are you valuable to God? Yes! Yes! Yes!

I am created in God's image. **Genesis 1:27** So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

I am God's Temple. **1 Corinthians 3:16** Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?

I am Christ's Ambassador, carrying the message of Reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:18-20 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as

though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

I am a Warrior with Divine weapons to demolish strongholds.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. ⁴ The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵ We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ

I am created to do good works. **Ephesians 2:10** For we are God's workmanship (masterpiece), created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

I am Salt and Light. **Matthew 5:13-16 (Living Bible)** "You are the world's seasoning, to make it tolerable. If you lose your flavor, what will happen to the world? And you yourselves will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. ¹⁴ You are the world's light—a city on a hill, glowing in the night for all to see. ¹⁵⁻¹⁶ Don't hide your light! Let it shine for all; let your good deeds glow for all to see, so that they will praise your heavenly Father.

3. SECURITY

Will my relationship with the Father ever change? Am I safe and secure for eternity? Yes! Yes! Yes!

There is not now, and there will never be any condemnation. **Romans 8:1-2** Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death, (or the punishment of sin and death)

Since Christ is free from condemnation before God, and we are in Christ, we are also free. Remember God seated us with Christ in heavenly realms. (Ephesians 2:6)

We are co-heirs with Christ, that we may also share in His glory. **Romans 8:17** And since we are his children, we will share his treasures—for all God gives to his Son Jesus is now ours too. Which includes His glory

We are sealed with the Holy Spirit, guaranteeing our inheritance. **Ephesians 1: 13-14** And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory

We will never perish. No one can snatch us from His hand. **John 10:27-29** My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand

Nothing will separate us from His love. **Romans 8: 37-39** No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.