

Be rescued!

If some readers of this column are not Christians yet, it is my privilege to remind you how easily you can gain God's acceptance and enjoy his ongoing and transforming power in your life.

First, if you are striving to become part of God's kingdom, that at least shows you are headed in the right direction. Except that you don't have to *strive* to gain God's acceptance. All you need to do is *receive* it.

Second, why haven't you done this? Perhaps because you want to *earn* your passage to heaven - *do* something to merit being saved.

Well, **third**, God says we can't rescue ourselves. Even great Bible heroes like Abraham, David, Peter, etc., were imperfect and failed God at important stages in their lives. They demonstrated their human weakness and need for God to rescue them.

Fourth, here's the hard part - we have to remove the barrier of pride in our heart and come to God just as we are, acknowledging that he sent Jesus into the world to be our Saviour.

No one but Jesus has ever said, "I came down from heaven." Only he claims that "no one comes to the Father except through me."

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God planned for your rescue before the foundation of the world! 1 Peter 1.20.

Ken Packer