

## **God Our Father**

### **1 Peter 1:17-21 (NKJV)**

17 And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear; 18 knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. 20 He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you 21 who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

This passage reminds me of those times I have been confronted with those IF THEN statements. You know what I mean.

Since you are the older brother you then you should watch out over your younger siblings.

Or since you know how you ought to behave then you should not have done that.

Or since you knew the assignment was due today then you should have finished it.

So since or if you call on the Father then you should conduct yourselves in a godly manner.

I. And if you call on the Father

A. To call on the Father indicates trust and reliance, submission and relationship.

B. To call on God in the scripture indicates the salvation of the people who trust the Lord.

1. Joel 2:32 (NKJV)

a. 32 And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, As the LORD has said, Among the remnant whom the LORD calls.

2. Zechariah 13:9 (NKJV)

a. 9 I will bring the one-third through the fire, Will refine them as silver is refined, And test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, And I will answer them. I will say, 'This is My people'; And each one will say, 'The LORD is my God.' ”

3. Romans 10:13 (NKJV)

a. 13 For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”

4. 1 Corinthians 1:2 (NKJV)

a. 2 To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are

sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:

C. He is our Holy Father

1. After all, it was sin that sent His Son to the cross. If we call God “Father,” then we should reflect His nature. *Warren W. Wiersbe, The Bible Exposition Commentary, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1996), 397.*

II. Who without partiality judges according to each one’s work,

A. What is this judging that he is referring to?

1. It has nothing to do with salvation for we have been justified by faith.
2. Romans 5:1 (NKJV)
  - a. 1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
3. There can be no condemnation to those who are saved.
4. Romans 8:1–4 (NKJV)
  - a. 1 There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. 3 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, 4 that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.
5. All of our sins have been forgiven, and covered by the blood of Jesus.
6. Colossians 2:13 (NKJV)
  - a. 13 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,

B. But there does remain a day of judgment for the children of God.

1. 2 Corinthians 5:9–10 (NKJV)
  - a. 9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

2. 1 Corinthians 3:9–15 (NKJV)

- a. 9 For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, you are God’s building. 10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. 11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 13 each one’s work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one’s work, of what sort it is. 14 If anyone’s work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. 15 If anyone’s work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

C. But there will be no partiality in God’s judgments.

1.

III. But since God is a holy God you should conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear;

A. With the same fear or reverence one would for a loving but just father.

1. We do not fear Him as the world should fear Him.

2. But because of a relationship with Him and know what He asks of us we live in reverence and godly fear.

3. Psalm 5:7 (NKJV)

- a. 7 But as for me, I will come into Your house in the multitude of Your mercy; In fear of You I will worship toward Your holy temple.

B. So then we must manage our conduct.

1. Titus 1:16 (NKJV)

- a. 16 They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work.

2. Titus 2:7–8 (NKJV)

- a. 7 in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, 8 sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you.

3. Titus 2:11–13 (NKJV)

- a. 11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,
- C. Through our stay here.
- 1. 1 Peter 1:17 other translations
    - a. NET And if you address as Father the one who impartially judges according to each one's work, live out the time of your temporary residence here in reverence.
    - b. NLT And remember that the heavenly Father to whom you pray has no favorites. He will judge or reward you according to what you do. So you must live in reverent fear of him during your time here as "temporary residents."
    - c. ESV And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile,
    - d. AV And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear:
    - e. NIV Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear.
  - 2. Our time here is short.
  - 3. Our time here is like a breath, a cloud, swifter than a weaver's shuttle.
  - 4. Job 7:6 (NKJV)
    - a. 6 "My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle, And are spent without hope.

Do we realize how short our time here is?

Job took something that was the shortest in time span and compared it to his life.

If we call on the Father, let us live our short lives in fear and reverence.

For our life will soon be over and our reward will be given to us by the holy judge who is no respecter of persons.

18 knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things,  
like silver or gold,  
from your aimless conduct  
received by tradition from your fathers,  
19 but with the precious blood of Christ,  
as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

20 He  
indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world,  
but was manifest in these last times for you  
you 21 who through Him believe in God,  
who raised Him from the dead  
and gave Him glory,  
so that your faith and hope are in God.