

Thoughts on the difference between Acceptance (or glad surrender), which looks up in faith, and Resignation, which looks down in despair

acceptance is usually accompanied by relief.... it is what it is
resignation is usually accompanied by bitterness.... I hate what it is

acceptance comes on bended knee, with open hands
resignation comes with tightly clenched jaws and fists

acceptance is gentle with self and with others, it is trusting
resignation is harsh with self and with others, it is resentful

acceptance is faith-filled, even hopeful, that better days are ahead
resignation is faithless, often despairing, anticipating bleakness and pain

acceptance is believing that despite the harsh conditions, the seed will flower
resignation is believing that the seed has no life, or is a flowerless weed

acceptance does not mean living with that which is changeable, for love demands dignity
resignation often means living with the unacceptable, as twisted love is enabling

acceptance does not mean not changing the things that can be changed
resignation means surrendering hopelessly to things as they are, even if changeable

acceptance means dependence on God for moment by moment wisdom
resignation means independence from God and rigid or harsh thinking

acceptance means love plus truth and justice
resignation means love without truth and justice

acceptance means clear sight and living in reality
resignation means clouded sight and living in unreality

acceptance is usually validated by others
resignation is usually challenged by others

acceptance connects
resignation disengages

acceptance is faith-filled
resignation despairs.

*Lord, help us to know what to accept and what not to accept,
and keep us from bitter resignation if change is possible.*