

**Series: The bible for Today**

**Title:** I Am an Adopted Son of God: (Jn 1:12-13)

Adoption is entirely a NT concept.

All of Paul's references are from a Roman paradigm.

*Illus: Death row felon, pardoned by the Governor & adopted, brought him home to live at the mansion with the family?*

Justification secures our legal relationship with God as Judge.  
Adoption secured our family relationship with God.

Justification is the act of a merciful Judge setting the prisoner free,

Adoption is the act of a generous father, taking a son to his bosom and endowing him with liberty, favor & a heritage.

2 are Linked:

Adoption cannot occur w/o Justification.

Justification always results in Adoption.

The Primary Function of the Holy Spirit in Regeneration.  
(Eph 1:3-6)

*Illus: Gov can Pardon with his pen w/o personal involvement To Adopt, the Gov has b/c Personally Responsible for Welfare & the Killers Behavior.*

God cannot Pardon by Edict: God pardoned us @ infinite personal cost. (The death of His Son)

Sanctification is the Ongoing process of developing the family resemblance: (1 Cor 6:17-18)

OT: Godliness

NT: Christlikeness (Rom 8:29)

**Adoption Is according to promise.** (Romans 9:8) *That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.*

(Galatians 3:29) *And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.*

**Adoption Is by faith.**

(Galatians 3:7) *Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.*

(Galatians 3:26) *For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.*

**Adoption Is of God's Grace:**

(Rom 4:16-17)

**Adoption Is through Christ:**

(John 1:12) *But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:*

(Galatians 4:4-5) *But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, 5 To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.*

**Adoption To an Inheritance:** (Rom 8:15-17)

Referred to as *Children~Kinship*

(Gal 3:25-4:7)

(vs 27-29) Male & Female included.

Culturally only sons inherited from the parents.

All 1 in Christ, equal heirs of God's Promises.

*Illus: Roman Adoption vs. Today*

Today We think of Adoption as a Rescue.

“Adoption” ~ Son Placing

Not just bringing into the Family.

Roman Times: Choosing as “THE” undisputed heir.

He will Inherit All, Carry on the Family Name.

### **Adoption from conditions of slavery into the status of Sonship.**

Paternal authority (*patria potestas*), a son was held in his father's power, almost as a slave was owned by his master.

(Gal 4:1-3)

**Adoption process:** a person was transferred from his natural father's power into that of his adoptive father.

The Roman son, whose adoptive father buys him out of the authority of his natural father; exchanges 1 paternal authority for another.

**Consisted in a fictitious sale of the son** (3 Offers/2 Refusals)

The Repeated offer by the adoptive Father.

& his surrender by the natural to the adoptive father.

Greek word: *emancipare* to Emancipate

The Adoptive Father would take 7 men of varying age to the magistrate as witness so no one could contest it.

Especially if the Father went on to have other children.

He is declaring this ONE son is his specific heir.

**The Trinity is involved in our Adoption** (2 Cor 1:21-22)

The Seal of the Spirit of God is binding: (Eph 1:13-14)

The Spirits of God as a our internal Witness: (Rom 8:16)

God, by the manifestation of His grace in Christ, brings men into the relation of sons to Himself, & communicates to them the experience of sonship. (Gal 4:4-5)

The redemption is only a precondition of Adoption, which follows upon faith, and is accompanied by the sending of "the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, Abba, Father," and then all bondage is done away (Ga 4:5-7).

The Spirit to which we are debtors & by which we are led, at once awakens & confirms the experience of sonship within us

(Rom 8:16)

(Rom 8:17) We are NOW Heir's of God.

(Gal 3:18,29; 4:7) Being a 'Son' ~ Being a full heir.

*Illus:* Inheritance today doesn't mean much b/c of affluence.

Vast Majority lived in Abject Poverty.

Inheritance=Survival

**We Inherit Hope:** (Rom 8:18-25)

(Rom 8:18) Suffering in this life is inevitable.

Even our best vacations disappointment somewhat.

Planned a healthy amount of discontent with this world.

**Modern usage of Hope~*Wishful Thinking.***

**Bible Hope~*Confident Expectation of Eternal Promises.***

(Rom 8:24) Things not seen (Heb 11:1)

(1Pet 1:3-4) Imperishable, undefiled, Unfading,

## Our Inheritance Reserved in Heaven for US!

(List our Inheritance)

(Rom 8:18) No Worth Comparing.

We have not received our full inheritance until Rapture.

(Col 3:2) Our inheritance is always in the future.

Ira Stanphil: 500+ Hymns

*I know wha holds tomorrow*

*Mansion over the Hilltop*

All written with the future hope

Modern day affluence has robbed us of our earnest desire for our heavenly reward.

Relationship: Abba-Father: (Rom 8:15)(Gal 4:6)

Expresses our Family Intimacy.

Expresses our dependence upon the Father.

Unheard of in the OT:

Abraham, Moses, David, Daniel were exceptions.

Not that OT people couldn't, just not in their paradigm.

Christ Opened the Way to the Father's Presence:

The Most Holy Place had 3 restrictions: (Heb 9:7-8)

Only By the High Priest:

Only Once a Year:

Only with Sacrificial Blood:

(Matt 27:51) The Veil was torn

(Heb 10:19-23) We have access

Not with the bloods of animals, but by the blood of Christ.

(Heb 4:15-16) Come, even w/ our failures.

Christ knows how we feel.

(Heb 13:5) Know us, but never leaving/forsaking.

(Jn 6:37) *"No wise Cast Out"*

(Jn 10:28-29) *"No man/Any man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand."*

*"Abba Father"*

Intimacy with the Father is a difficult concept for Some  
b/c Bad earthly fathers.

God is the Perfect Father!

Read Hymn Lyrics: *"I'm a Child of the King"*

Once I was clothed in the rags of my sin

Wretched and poor lost and lonely within

But with wonderous compassion the King of all Kings

In pity and love took me under his wing.

I once was an outcast stranger on earth,

A sinner by choice, an alien by birth,

But I've been adopted, my name's written down,

An heir to a mansion, a robe and a crown.

Chorus:

Oh yes, oh yes, I'm a child of the King

His royal blood now flows in my veins

And I who was wretched and poor now can sing

Praise God Praise God I'm a child of the King.

Now I'm a child with a heavenly home

My holy father has made me his own

And I am cleansed by his blood and I'm clothed in his love

And someday I'll sing with the angels above.

A tent or a cottage, why should I care?  
They're building a palace for me over there;  
Though exiled from home, yet still may I sing:  
All glory to God, I'm a child of the King.

My Father's own Son, the Savior of men,  
Once wandered on earth as the poorest of them;  
But now He is pleading our pardon on high,  
That we may be His, when He comes by and by.