

Adoption and the Father Heart of God

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Romans 8:12-17

So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him.

I. I _____ to the _____ of God.

II. God wants to be known as _____.

Quotes:

- "Adoption is the crown and glory of the Christian's privileges." – *Charles Spurgeon*
- "Adoption is the highest privilege that the gospel offers: higher even than justification." – *J.I. Packer*
- "Adoption is the act of God's free grace, whereby we are received into the number, and have a right to all the privileges, of the sons of God." – *John Wesley*
- "Through adoption, God transforms us from orphans to sons and daughters of the King." – *Jonathan Edwards*

Resources on the Doctrine of Adoption:

- Heirs With Christ – *Joel R. Beeke*
- Reclaiming Adoption – *Dan Cruver*
- Children of the Living God – *Sinclair Ferguson*
- Redemption Accomplished and Applied – *John Murray*
- Adoption & Union with Christ – *R.C. Sproul*

Discussion Questions:

1. How does the Doctrine of Adoption affect other aspects of the Christian life like mentioned in this sermon?
2. God wants to be known as your Father. Do you find that easy or difficult? Explain.
3. What does Jesus' prayer in Mark 14:36 teach you about how you can approach God?
4. How does fear impair your ability to approach God as your Father? What has helped you overcome that?
5. *CHALLENGE* Compile a list of verses in the Bible that speak of God's Father heart toward His children. Memorize one this week!

Next Week: "From Groans to Glory" – (Romans 8:18-27)