

WHO
ARE
YOU

Really?

I AM MADE ...

IN THE
IMAGE
OF GOD



in Christ

WHO
ARE
YOU

Really?

I am
JUSTIFIED

I am adopted



ADOPTION in the Bible

- **The Biblical concept of adoption is primarily in the New Testament rather than the Old.**
 - Moses; Esther; Genubath (**1 Kings 11:20**)
 - Israel is called God's son and God is called their father. (**cf. Ex. 4:22; Deut. 14:1; 32:6; Jeremiah 31:9; Hosea 11:1**)
 - But not until the N.T. is this called *adoption*.
 - **The deepest and strongest foundation of adoption is located not in the act of humans adopting humans, but in God adopting humans!**

God's Adoption of His People & Adoption Today

1) Adoption was (for God) and is (for us) costly!

- ⁴ *When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,* ⁵ *to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. (Galatians 4:4-5)*

God's Adoption of His People & Adoption Today

2) Adoption did (for God) and does (for us) involve the legal status of the child!

- ⁴ *But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,* ⁵ *to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.* ⁶ *And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"* (Galatians 4:4-6)

God's Adoption of His People & Adoption Today

3) Adoption was blessed and is blessed with God's pouring out a Spirit of sonship!

- *“And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, ‘Abba! Father!’” (Galatians 4:6)*
- **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.*

(Romans 8:15-16)

God's Adoption of His People & Adoption Today

4) Adoption brought us, and brings our adopted children, the rights of being heirs!

- ⁶ *And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"* ⁷ *So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God. (Galatians 4:6-7)*
- 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. (Romans 8:16-17)*

God's Adoption of His People & Adoption Today

5) Adoption was (for God) and is (for us) seriously planned!

- ⁴ ... even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

(Ephesians 1:4-6)

God's Adoption of His People & Adoption Today

- 6) Adoption was (for God) and often is now (for us) from very bad situations!
 - We “... *were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.*” **(Ephesians 2:3)**

God's Adoption of His People & Adoption Today

- 7) Adoption meant (for all Christians) and means (for Christian parents) that we suffer now and experience glory later!
- ²² *For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.* ²³ *And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first-fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. (Romans 8:22-23)*

I am adopted



