

# L21 | Ephesians | "The Good Pleasure of His Will" | Eph. 1:3-6

## I. Intro/Review:

- The Adoption of Children
  - Something that concerns both Israel and the Body of Christ
  - We have received the Spirit of adoption (seal/earnest of the Spirit)
  - The Spirit leads us in teaching about the glory, which is to have impact on our life now
  - The consummation with the redemption of our body
  - The purpose is to be conformed to the image of Christ
  - Adoption isn't a replacement for justification, redemption, or regeneration (divine nature)
    - Rather adoption is describing the legal status we have within the family of God
    - It has to do with our inheritance and the riches He has given us
  - Adoption is the height of God's great love in Christ
    - Predestinated us unto the adoption of children (of which we have presently the earnest of right now)
- **"by Jesus Christ"** - the provision and means of adoption, ultimately through death, burial, resurrection, and ascension.
- **"to Himself"** - Ephesians 5, Colossians 1:22

## II. Preview:

- God's Will - The Good Pleasure thereof

## III. Sermon:

{:5} - **"having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,"**

- The choosing of us in Christ to be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestinated us unto the adoption of children is all in accord to the good pleasure of His will.
- It is the will of God purposing all this in Christ in that eternal counsel.
- **"good pleasure"**
  - **"eudokia"** - Translated - Matt. 11:26, Luk. 10:21 ("good"); Luk. 2:14, Php. 1:15 ("good will"); Rom. 10:1 ("desire"); Eph. 1:5, 9; Php. 2:13; 2 The. 1:11 ("good pleasure")
  - **"eudokeo"** - Luk. 12:32 - "fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."
    - OT - Ps. 51:18 - "Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem"
      - Isa. 9 - the zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this

- Contexts
  - Israel - kingdom and Jerusalem
  - BoC
    - adoption of children,
    - making known the mystery of His will,
    - God's works in us to will and to do of what He has good pleasure in,
    - the good pleasure of His will is something to be fulfilled, our walk worthy of it,
  
- **The Good Pleasure of His Will**
  - **"good"** - valid; legally firm; not weak or defective; having strength adequate to its support; complete or sufficiently perfect in its kind
    - Genesis - "and it was good"
      - Eph. 1:5, 9 - good pleasure
      - Eph. 2:10 - good works
      - Eph. 4:28 - the thing which is good
      - Eph. 4:29 - but that which is good to the use of edifying
      - Eph. 5:9 - for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;
      - Eph. 6:7 - with good will doing service
      - Eph. 6:8 - knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth
  
  - **"pleasure"** - the gratification of the senses or of the mind; agreeable sensations or emotions; the excitement, relish or happiness produced by enjoyment of the expectation of good
    - That which is to His delight and pleasure (Psalm 16)
    - Rev. 4:11 (Col. 1:15ff)
  
  - Romans 8:28-29 - "...the called according to His purpose"
    - Adoption - consummation is conformed to His image, not just the outward, but the inner
    - The Spirit of Adoption leads us in those things now
      - Our inheritance is Christ, to have a body like His, but to know Him!
      - Our body will be made fit for the heavenly places, to occupy the heavenly government to forever put on display Christ in us to one another.
  
  - **"of His will"**
    - **Definition** - That faculty of the mind by which we determine either to do or forbear an action; the faculty which is exercised in deciding, among two or more objects, which we shall embrace or pursue. The will is directed or influenced by the judgment. The understanding or reason compares different objects, which operate as motives; the judgment determines which is preferable, and the will decides which to pursue. In other words, we reason with respect to the value or importance of things; we then judge which is to be preferred; and we will to take the most valuable.

- Testament; the disposition of a mans estate, to take effect after his death.
- To determine; to decide int he mind that something shall be done or forborne; implying power to carry the purpose into effect.

**IV. Conclusion:**