

ADOPTION

GOD'S HIGHEST PRIVILEGE

“The highest privilege that the gospel offers is that the Creator of the Universe looks at us and calls us His children .”

J. I. Packer, Knowing God





1. Our legal standing
 - a. Justified by Grace, redeemed, forgiven
 - b. Propitiation, a huge theological word
 - c. Adoption
 - i. What it means
 - ii. The Exchange
 - iii. Our Inheritance
2. Our Relational Intimacy
 - a. The Spirit of Sonship (Romans 8:15)
 - b. Access to the Father
3. Our Eternal Destiny
 - a. Redemption of the Body (Romans 8:23)
 - B. Present Hope

1. Our Legal Standing

a. REDEEMED AND FORGIVEN

b. What is Propitiation?

c. Adoption

i. What it means: Greek word is huiothesia

Huios – son; thesia – to place

Literally, Son-Placing, a legal term borrowed from
Greco-Roman law

ii. The Exchange

Legally, all his debts were canceled; his previous life was completely erased in the eyes of the law

The son became as wealthy as the father; he became a legal heir of all the father owned

ii. The Exchange

Where the father could disown a biological son, the protections given by Roman Law regarding an adopted son made it nearly impossible to disown him

Most importantly, the new son took on the father's name, became a member of the father's family, and ate at the father's table.

ii. The Inheritance: Co-Heirs with Christ

**Everything we have “In Christ” is gained at His
expense**

***“Why should I gain from His reward, I cannot
give an answer...”***

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places ... In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to himself 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.

**Christian Adoption is the gracious act of
God where He makes justified sinners His
beloved children to the praise of His glory**

Can I get an AMEN?

2. Our Relational Intimacy

a. The Spirit of Sonship (Romans 8:15):

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!”

“But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His Name, He gave the right to become children of God...”
John 1:12

“If you want to judge how well a person understands Christianity, find out how much he makes of the thought of being God’s child, and having God as His Father. If this is not the thought that prompts and controls his worship and prayers and his whole outlook on life, it means that he does not understand Christianity very well at all.” J.I. Packer, “Knowing God”

b. Access to The Father

Believers are granted the right to approach God's throne boldly as beloved children rather than as subjects before a judge

3. Our Eternal Destiny

a. Redemption of the Body (Romans 8:22,23)

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.

So, are we adopted or not? Is this some kind of contradiction?

b. Present Hope

*According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance that is **AMEN?! imperishable**, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

APPLICATIONS

Identity and Assurance:

- ❖ **No more fear:**
- ❖ **A new name:**
- ❖ **Paternal care:**

APPLICATIONS

Prayer and Relationship

- **We Can Approach God Boldly with Confidence:**
- **God is our Father who loves us unconditionally**

***Is this the identity you know? Is this your
greatest joy?***

Is this who you are?